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# *The Kentucky Warbler*

(Published by Kentucky Ornithological Society)

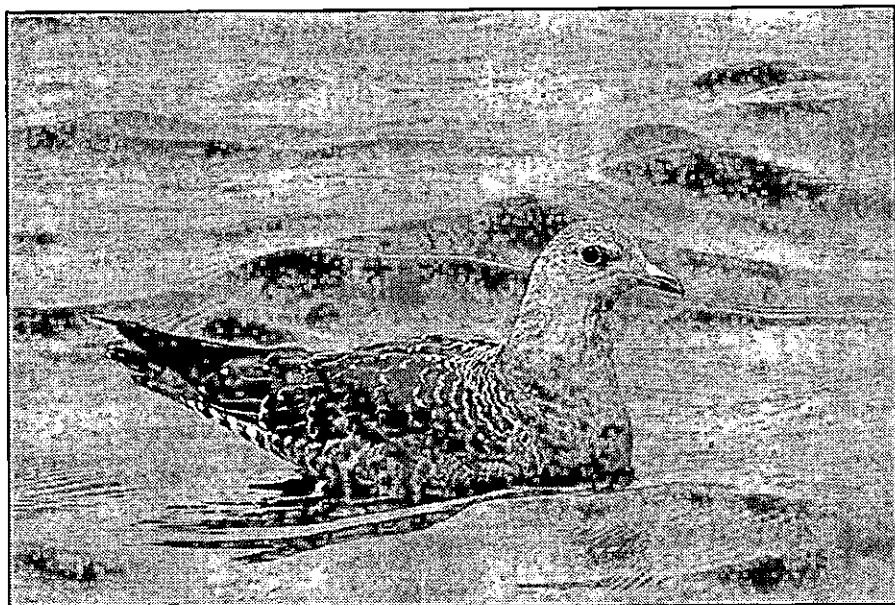
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**VOL. 81**

**FEBRUARY 2005**

**NO. 1**

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## THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

Organ of the Kentucky Ornithological Society, published quarterly in February, May, August and November. *The Kentucky Warbler* is sent to all members not in arrears for dues. Membership dues are: Regular \$15.00; Contributing \$25.00; Student \$10.00; Family \$20.00; Corporate \$100.00; and Life \$300.00. All articles and communications should be addressed to the editor. Subscriptions and memberships should be sent to the Treasurer. Requests for back issues should be sent to the Corresponding Secretary.

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## THE COVER

We thank David Roemer for the cover photograph of the juvenile Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) taken on Kentucky Lake, Marshall County, 2 September 2004 (see Field Notes).

## FALL SEASON 2004

Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., and Lee McNeely

The fall season of 2004 was characterized by several extremes. Late summer started off with a cooler- and wetter-than-normal August, but September was very dry, outside of the eastern portion of the state, which received copious rainfall from the remnants of two tropical systems. In contrast, some portions of central and western Kentucky went throughout September without measurable precipitation. October and November returned to more normal conditions, although killing frosts were delayed well into November in many areas and the period was devoid of strong, rainy weather systems.

The season brought several notable rarities including two state-firsts (Long-tailed Jaeger and Northern Shrike), a second-state Reddish Egret (first photo-documented record), an apparent third-state White-faced Ibis (photo-documented), and a third-state Sooty Tern (first specimen). The overall lack of nasty weather in November may have contributed to a less-than-stellar appearance by migratory waterbirds. Relatively poor conditions for shorebird migrants resulted in diminished numbers during the season. By season's end, a somewhat less-active season for western hummingbirds seemed to be shaping up. Passerine migration was noted by several observers to be lacking in numbers, but was better than the spring migration, when weather conditions allowed for many to pass right through unnoticed. A moderate winter finch movement commenced in October, but species other than Pine Siskins and Purple Finches were lacking.

Publication of any unusual sightings in the seasonal report does not imply that these reports have been accepted as records for the official checklist of Kentucky birds. Observers are cautioned that records of out-of-season birds and all rarities must be accompanied with good details or documentation for acceptance. Documentation must be submitted to the Kentucky Bird Records Committee (KBRC). Decisions regarding the official Kentucky list are made by the KBRC and are reported periodically in *The Kentucky Warbler*.

**Abbreviations – Miscellaneous:** county names appear in *italics*; when used to separate dates, the “/” symbol is used in place of “and”; “ph.” next to an observer’s initials indicates that the observation was documented with photograph(s); “vt.” next to an observer’s initials indicates that the observation was documented on videotape; “\*” next to an observer’s initials indicates that written details were submitted with the report; ad. = adult; imm. = immature; juv. = juvenile; yg. = young; KDFWR = Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. **Place names:** Ano = reclaimed surface mines near Ano, e. Pulaski; Audubon State Park = J.J. Audubon State Park, *Henderson*; Ballard = Ballard WMA, *Ballard*; Barkley Dam = Barkley Dam, *Lyon/Livingston*; Barren = Barren River Lake, *Allen/Barren* (unless otherwise noted); Beargrass Creek = Beargrass Creek State Nature Preserve, *Jefferson*; Bernheim Forest = Bernheim Forest, *Bullitt/Nelson*; Blanton Forest = Blanton Forest State Nature Preserve, *Harlan*; Blood River = Blood River embayment of Kentucky Lake, *Calloway*; Briarwood = Briarwood, *Jefferson*; Camp #9 = Peabody Camp #9 coal facility, *Union*; Camp #11 = Peabody Camp #11 mine, *Union*; Cape Hills = Cape Hills Unit Sloughs WMA, *Henderson*; Caperton = Caperton Swamp Nature Preserve, *Jefferson*; Cave Hill Cemetery = Cave Hill Cemetery, *Jefferson*; Chaney Lake = Chaney Lake State Nature Preserve, *Warren*; DBNF = Daniel Boone National Forest; Eddy Creek = Eddy Creek embayment of Lake Barkley, *Lyon*; Evergreen Cemetery = Evergreen Cemetery, *Campbell*; Falls of the Ohio = Falls of the Ohio, *Jefferson*; Fishing Creek = Fishing Creek embayment of Lake Cumberland, *Pulaski*; Homestead = Homestead Unit Peabody WMA, *Ohio*; Island No. 1 = Mississippi River sandbars opposite Island No. 1, *Carlisle*; Jonathan Creek = Jonathan Creek embayment of Kentucky Lake, *Marshall*; Kuttawa = Lake Barkley at Kuttawa, *Lyon*; Ky Dam = Kentucky Dam, *Livingston/Marshall*; Ky Dam Village = Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park, *Marshall*; Ky Lake

= Kentucky Lake, *Marshall* (unless otherwise noted); *Kuttawa* = Lake Barkley at Kuttawa, *Lyon*; *Lake Barkley* = Lake Barkley, *Livingston/Lyon/Trigg*; *Lake No. 9* = Lake No. 9, *Fulton*; *Lake Peewee* = Lake Peewee, *Hopkins*; *Laketon* = Mississippi River sandbars at and immediately upstream of Laketon boat ramp, *Carlisle*; *LBL* = Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area, *Lyon/Trigg*; *Little Lick* = Little Lick Recreation Area, *DBNF, Pulaski*; *Little River* = Little River embayment of Lake Barkley, *Trigg*; *Long Run Park* = Long Run Park, e. *Jefferson*; *Mark* = Mark, e. *Pulaski*; *McElroy* = McElroy Lake, *Warren*; *Miles Park* = Miles Park, e. *Jefferson*; *Minor Clark* = Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, *Rowan*; *Mitchell Lake* = Mitchell Lake, *Ballard WMA, Ballard*; *Mt. Zion* = Mt. Zion, *Pulaski*; *Murray* = Murray, *Calloway*; *Paradise* = Paradise Power Plant impoundments, *Muhlenberg*; *Sauerheber* = Sauerheber Unit of Sloughs WMA, *Henderson*; *Shaker Mill* = Shaker Mill, *Warren*; *Shawnee Park* = Shawnee Park, *Jefferson*; *Sinclair* = Sinclair Unit Peabody WMA, *Muhlenberg*; *Smithland Dam* = Smithland Dam on the Ohio River, *Livingston*; *Surrey Hills Farm* = Surrey Hills Farm, ne. *Jefferson*; *Tom Sawyer* = E.P. "Tom" Sawyer State Park, *Jefferson*; *Waitsboro* = Waitsboro Recreation Area, *Lake Cumberland, Pulaski*; *Westvaco* = Mississippi River sandbars at Westvaco WMA, *Carlisle* (unless otherwise noted); *WKU Farm/Woods* = Western Kentucky University Farm and Woods, s. *Warren*; *WMA* = Wildlife Management Area.

**Greater White-fronted Goose** – there were a few reports during the season; earliest was for 12 over Pleasant Hill Road, *Trigg*, 30 October (BL, PL); also reported were a juv. at Conley Bottom, *Lake Cumberland, Pulaski*, 6 November (RDn) and 2 at Homestead 15 November (DR).

**Snow Goose** – a white morph bird at Lexington 18 September (BM) may have been a bird reported elsewhere in the county in summer; also early or lingering from summer were 3 at Minor Clark 17 October (LH, FB). The first major movement of the fall was noted over Murray 20 November (ME).

**Ross's Goose** – presumably the same bird that has wintered in s. *Ohio* the past few years was observed 5 November (DR), establishing a new early fall arrival date for the state.

**Cackling Goose** – there were two reports of this newly designated species: "several" at Sinclair 14 November (DD, DA) and 4 at Homestead 26 November (ph. DR, RDv, BDv, MW).

**Mute Swan** – 1 bird from the resident pair at Cypress Creek Swamp, *Muhlenberg*, was noted 8 August (WR); also reported were an ad. on Lake Barkley above the dam 17 October (BP, BY) and 2 ads. at the Louisville Water Company Ponds,

ne. *Jefferson*, 29 November (J&PB et al.).

**Tundra Swan** – the first of the traditional wintering flock to return to Sauerheber were 4 there 19 November (CC) with 12 there by 29 November (fide MMr).

**Gadwall** – earliest report was for a male at Roadhouse Pond, Cold Spring, *Campbell*, 28 September (FR).

**American Wigeon** – peak count reported for the season was 200-300 at Sauerheber 19 November (CC).

**Green-winged Teal** – earliest report was for 1 at Camp #11 on 1 September (BP); peak counts included 80-85 at Camp #11 on 29 September (BP) and 60 near Boston, *Nelson*, 28 October (BP).

**Ring-necked Duck** – a male at Lake No. 9 on 27 August may have summered (DR, JR); also reported rather early were a male on Lake Barkley above the dam (possibly from summer) and 5 at Camp #9, both 17 October (BP, BY).

**Greater Scaup** – there were a few reports during November; earliest was for 1 at Barren 1 November (DR).

**Lesser Scaup** – 3 at Kuttawa 27 August were likely injured birds continuing from summer (DR, JR); the earliest report of likely fall migrants was for 20-25 on Lake Barkley above the dam 17 October

(BP, BY); then 200+ were on Lake Barkley above the dam by 27 October (BP) with 3500+ there by 17 November (DR).

**Surf Scoter** – all reports for the season are listed: 2 on Lake Cumberland, *Wayne*, 5 November (RDn); 2 on Barren 8 November (DR, RDv); 1 on the Ohio River at Louisville 12 November (J&PB); and 10 there 24 November (J&PB).

**Black Scoter** – there were only two reports for the season: 1 at Barren 8 November (DR, RDv) and 3 imm./females on the Ohio River at Louisville 23 November (BP).

**Bufflehead** – earliest report was for 1 at Barren 10 November (DR); peak count was a relatively unimpressive 41 on the Ohio River at Louisville 29 November (J&PB).

**Ruddy Duck** – earliest report was for a female on Lake Barkley above the dam 17 October (BP, BY); peak count was for 90 on Lake Pee wee 27 October (BP).

**Red-throated Loon** – the only report was for 1 at Paradise 31 October (RL, MW), tying the state's early fall arrival date.

**Common Loon** – no pronounced fallout was detected during the species' southward movement this year, likely due to the lack of prime weather conditions for grounding birds; peak counts included 25 at Lake Pee wee 6 November (AM); 23+ on Green River Lake, *Taylor*, 6 November (RDn); and 70+ on Ky Lake 17 November (DR).

**Pied-billed Grebe** – peak count was for 89 on Lake Pee wee 27 October (BP).

**Horned Grebe** – peak count was for 170+ on Ky Lake 17 November (DR).

**Eared Grebe** – the only report was for 1 at Waitsboro 5 November (ph.RDn).

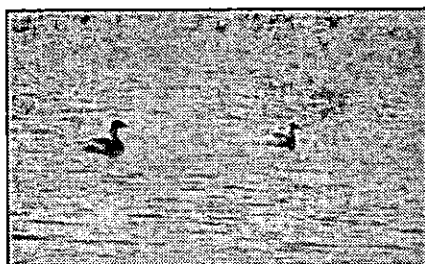
**Amer. White Pelican** – the only report from the late summer season was for 10 at Westvaco, *Hickman*, 28 August (DR, JR); migrants arrived in numbers during late September with first arrivals noted on Lake Barkley, *Trigg*, 22 September (KB); peak counts included 600 in w. *Fulton* 2 October (RDn, HC); 338 on

Lake Barkley, *Trigg*, 6 October (KB); more than 500 (including 1 with a broken wing) on Lake Barkley from dam to Eddyville, *Lyon*, 17 October (BP, BY); and 400+ on Lake Barkley from the dam to Eddyville, *Lyon*, 27 October (BP). Also reported were 1 at Minor Clark 6 November (ph.LH, FB et al.), representing a new e.-most report for the state, and 1 at Taylorsville Lake, *Spencer*, 13 November (BW).

**Double-crested Cormorant** – peak count, as usual, was recorded on Lake Barkley, *Trigg*, and this year consisted of 4,000-6,000 birds 19 October (ER, BDg).

**Least Bittern** – the only report for the season was 1 at Paradise 16 August (DR, NR, RDv).

**Great Egret** – higher numbers were detected this fall than in the past couple of years; peak counts included 500+ at Mitchell Lake in early August (DR, NR); 1500+ at Lake No. 9 on 27 August (DR, JR) with 1000+ still there 11 September (DR, NR); and 28 at Taylorsville Lake, *Anderson*, 10 September (BW). Latest reports were for 22 still at Eddy Creek 27 October (BP); 1 over Shaker Mill 2 November (DR); 1 at Barren, *Barren*, 10 November (DR); 3 at Paradise 13 November (RDn, HC, ME); and finally 2 there 14 November (MB).



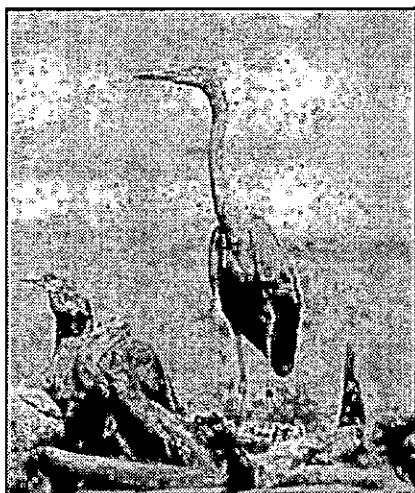
Eared Grebe (w/ Pied-billed Grebe)  
*Pulaski*, 5 November 2004  
Roseanna Denton

**Snowy Egret** – numbers of post-breeding birds were not large; peak counts included 19 at Sauerheber 7 August (MS) and ca. 100 at Lake No. 9 on 27 August (DR, JR); 1 was an unusual visitor to

Fishing Creek 21-27 August (RDn); latest report was for 1 at Eddy Creek 17 October (BP, BY).

**Little Blue Heron** – numbers of post-breeding birds were not especially great; peak count was 400-500 at Lake No. 9 on 27 August (DR, JR); 1 continued at Fishing Creek to 27 August (RDn).

**Reddish Egret** – extraordinary was a juv. at Island No. 1 on 12 September (ph.DR, NR), constituting the second state record and first to be photo-documented. KBRC review required.



Reddish Egret, *Carlisle*  
12 September 2004  
David Roemer

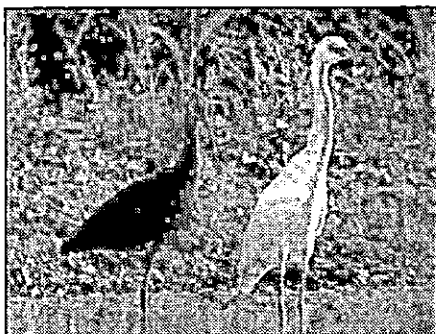
**Cattle Egret** – 1475 nests (most probably used by this species) were counted at Kuttawa 27 October (BP, TF, JS); peak counts of post-breeding birds included 1000+ at Lake No. 9 on 27 August (DR, JR) with 800-1000 still there 11 September (DR, NR), and "probably several thousand" at Kuttawa 2 September (BP, MMn). Latest report was for 2 at Barren, 2 November (DR).

**Green Heron** – latest report was for 1 at Miles Park 6 October (BW).

**Black-crowned Night-Heron** – latest reports included a juv. at Paradise 17 October (BP, BY) and a few birds that lin-

gered to the end of the period in St. Matthews (BW).

**White-faced Ibis** – a *Plegadis* ibis observed at Willow Pond, *Fulton*, 11 September was reported as this species (vt.DR, NR). KBRC review required.



White-faced Ibis, *Fulton*  
11 September 2004  
David Roemer

**Black Vulture** – peak counts included 73 at Pulaski County Park 13 August (RDn); 80 at Rough River State Park, *Grayson*, 4 October (JP); a kettle of 85 near Paradise 17 October (BP, BY); and ca. 90 at Taylorsville Lake, *Spencer*, 15 November (BW). Two birds at Yatesville Lake, *Lawrence*, 20 October (SF) were the first locally.

**Turkey Vulture** – a striking dilute albino was present at Dry Ridge, *Grant*, in early November (ph.LL).

**Osprey** – probably an early migrant was 1 at Fishing Creek 4 August (RDn); latest report was for 1 at Taylorsville Lake, *Nelson*, 10 November (BW).

**Mississippi Kite** – 23 were still at Ballard 25 August (DR); latest report was for 4 juvs. over the floodplain at Laketon 12 September (DR, NR).

**Bald Eagle** – probably an early migrant was 1 at Fishing Creek 4 August (RDn).

**Northern Harrier** – presumed migrants showed up as early as 14 August in w. *Fulton* (RDn, HC, RL, MW) and 1 September at Camp #11 (BP, MMn).

**Broad-winged Hawk** – peak counts occurred 18/19 September, with 300+ noted each day (most on the Virginia side 19 September) from the Pinnacle Overlook, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, *Bell* (DR/HC, KOS).

**Red-tailed Hawk** – notes on western forms: earliest report of a western bird was an ad. light morph *B. j. calurus* at Sauerheber 9 October (DR); also reported were an ad. *B. j. krideri* in *Butler* 17 November (DR); an ad. dark morph *B. j. calurus* in *Allen* 19 November (DR); an ad. dark morph *B. j. harlani* at Homestead 26 November (DR); an adult light morph likely *B. j. calurus* x *B. j. krideri* at McElroy 29 November (DR); and an ad. light morph *B. j. harlani* at the WKU Farm for the 4th consecutive winter starting 29 November (DR).

**Rough-legged Hawk** – earliest reports were for 1 near Bellevue, *Boone*, 25 November (LM) and single birds at Homestead and the Ken Hopewell Unit of Peabody WMA, *Ohio* (DR), and Sinclair (MW, BP et al.), all 26 November.

**Golden Eagle** – 3 had returned to Bernheim Forest by 8 November (BP); also reported were 1 there 24 November (BP) and 25 November (MS); and 1 s. of Sinclair 26 November (DR et al.).

**Merlin** – all reports are included: 1 at Fishing Creek 3 September (ph.RDn); 1 at Ano 24 September (RDn); 1 in w. *Fulton* 2 October (HC, RDn); a male at Garvin Brown Preserve, ne. *Jefferson*, 4 October (BW); 1 in *Warren* (DR) and 1 at Briarwood (J&PB), both 11 October; 1 at Jonathan Creek 15 October (DR); 1 in *Adair* 16 October (SS, WW); and 2 at Sinclair 31 October (MW, RL).

**Peregrine Falcon** – all reports are included: 1 at the Falls of the Ohio 5 September (MS); 1 at Jonathan Creek 2 October (HC, RDn); 1 at McElroy 8 October (DR); 1 at Fishing Creek 23 October (RDn); an ad. in downtown Henderson 23 October (BP, AC, JK); pair at the Falls of the Ohio 21 November (BP); 1 along the Ohio River above Maceo, *Dav-*

*ieiss*, 26 November (DA, DD); and 2 above Meldahl Dam, *Bracken*, 27 November (LM).

**King Rail** – the only report was for 1 at Sauerheber 9 October (DR, KOS).

**Sora** – there were only a few reports including 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 13 September (BP); 1 at Sinclair 21 September (DR); 1 at Sauerheber 5 October (DR); and 2 at Sauerheber 9 October (DR, KOS).

**Common Moorhen** – lingering breeding birds continued to be seen at Sauerheber into October with up to 7 observed 6 September/2 October (CC) and with the latest report being 4 there 5 October (DR). Also reported was a juv. at Camp #11 on 1 September (BP, MMn);

**American Coot** – 5 ads. observed at Camp #11 on 1 September likely summered (BP, MMn).

**Sandhill Crane** – as usual, there were numerous reports during November; well west of the corridor of highest density were 10 near Cayce, *Fulton*, 10 November (BL).

**Black-bellied Plover** – not many reports; all are included: an ad. at Mitchell Lake 9 August (SR) and 19 August (NR, DR); 1 at Laketon 25 August (DR); 1 at Island No. 1 on 26 August (SR); 1 at Blood River 24 October (HC); and 3 at Paradise 31 October (RL, MW).

**American Golden-Plover** – not many reports; all are included: 9 ads. at Camp #9 on 1 September (BP, MMn); 1 at Paradise 21 September (DR); 2 juvs. at Eddy Creek 30 September (DR, JR); and 9 juvs. at Camp #9 on 17 October (BP, BY).

**Semipalmated Plover** – peak count was for 12 at Mitchell Lake 2 September (NR et al.); latest reports included 3 in w. *Fulton* 3 October (RDn, HC) and 4 at Sauerheber 9 October (DR, KOS).

**Killdeer** – peak counts included 300+ at Mitchell Lake 4/24 August (NR); 450+ at Camp #9 on 1 September (BP, MMn); and 500 at Barren 23 November (DR).



**Black-necked Stilt** – a possible local family group of 2 ads. and 2 juvs. was observed at Willow Pond, *Fulton*, 27 August (DR, JR); 1 at Blood River 10-24 October (HC) and 2 at Homestead 19 October (NR) were late fall migrants.

**American Avocet** – the only report was for 1 at Westvaco 28 August (DR, JR).

**Greater Yellowlegs** – peak count was an unremarkable 6 at Mitchell Lake 19 August (DR, NR); latest reports were for singles at Sauerheber 30 October (CC), and at Paradise 5 November (DR) and 13 November (RDn, HC, ME).

**Lesser Yellowlegs** – not numerous this fall; latest report was for 6 at Barren 30 October (DR).

**Solitary Sandpiper** – peak count was for 13 at Mitchell Lake 4 August (DR, NR).

**Willet** – all reports are included: 4 at Paradise 16 August (DR, NR, RDv); 1 at Blood River 26 August (HC); 2 at Island No. 1 on 26 August (ph.SR); 1 at Westvaco, *Hickman*, 28 August (DR, JR); and 1 at Lake No. 9 on 11 September (DR, NR).

**Spotted Sandpiper** – latest reports included 1 at Eddy Creek 17 October (BP, BY); 1 on Lake Barkley at the dam 27 October (BP); and 1 at Fishing Creek 3 November (RDn).

**Ruddy Turnstone** – only reports were for an ad. at Westvaco 20 August (EC, SV); a juv. at Camp #9 on 1 September (BP, MMn); and a juv. at Blood River 16 September (HC).

**Sanderling** – not many reports; all are included: 1 at Paradise 3 September (NR) and 4 September (MS); 1 at Fishing Creek 8 September (RDn); 3 at Laketon 12 September (DR, NR); 3 juvs. at Paradise 28 September (BP); and 1 at Paradise 6 October (DR).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** – peak count was for 32 juvs. at Mitchell Lake 2 September (NR et al.); latest reports were for 1 at Blood River 24 October (DR) and 6-10 (with Least Sandpipers) at Paraise 31 October (RL, MW).

**Western Sandpiper** – earliest reports were for 1 at Paradise (DR) and 2 at Mitchell Lake (DR, NR), both 19 August. Peak counts were low and included 3 at Mitchell Lake 24 August (NR); 3 juvs. at Camp #9 on 1 September (BP, MMn); and 4 at Jonathan Creek 10 October (HC). Latest report was for 1 that lingered at Jonathan Creek to 24 October (HC, DR). Also reported were 1 at Minor Clark 21 August (LM, NKBC); 2 at Fishing Creek 17 August/3 September (RDn); at least 1 or 2 at each of Jonathan Creek, Eddy Creek and Little River 24 September (DR); and 2 at Blood River 26 September (HC).

**Least Sandpiper** – most peak counts occurred late in the season and included 175 in w. *Fulton* 2 October (HC, RDn); 100+ at Jonathan Creek 15 October (DR); and 150+ at Eddy Creek 17 October (BP, BY). Latest reports included 2 at Minor Clark 6 November (LH); 2 at Fishing Creek 12 November (RDn); 6 at Paradise 14 November (MB, DR); 10 at Eddy Creek and 1 on Lake Barkley above the dam, both 21 November (DR); 1 at Barren to 23 November (DR); and 1 at Paradise to 26 November (MB).

**White-rumped Sandpiper** – the only report was for 1 at Eddy Creek 29/30 September (DR, JR).

**Baird's Sandpiper** – earliest report was for 1 at Mitchell Lake 14 August (HC, RDn); peak counts included 5 juvs. at Camp #9 on 1 September (BP, MMn); 8 juvs. at Eddy Creek 2 September (BP, MMn); and 5 at Paradise 4 September (MS). Latest report was for 2 juvs. at Paradise 26/29 October (DR). Also reported were 1 at Blood River 1 September (HC), 2 at Paradise 3 September (NR); 1 at Fishing Creek 3 September (RDn); 1 at Minor Clark 4 September (SM); 1 at Town Creek moist soils unit, Westvaco WMA, *Hickman*, 12 September (DR, NR); and 2 at Camp #9 on 29 September (BP).

**Pectoral Sandpiper** – peak count during the season was for 233 at Mitchell Lake 24 August (NR). Latest reports included

4 at Minor Clark 14 November (LH) and 1 at Barren 23 November (DR).

**Dunlin** – earliest report was for 1 at Sauerheber 5 October (DR); peak counts included 20 at Minor Clark 27 October (FB); 50 at Paradise 29 October (DR); and 30 at Barren 23 November (DR). Other reports of some note included 6 at Meng's Pond, *Warren*, 20 October (DR) and 2 at Fishing Creek 12 November (RDn).

**Stilt Sandpiper** – peak counts included 8 at Mitchell Lake 19 August (NR, DR); 8 at Blood River 16 September (HC); 11 at Little River 24 September (DR); and 10 at Eddy Creek 15 October (DR). Latest reports were for 5 in w. *Henderson* (BP, AC, MS) and 1 at Blood River (HC), both 24 October. Also reported were 1 at Fishing Creek 17 August (RDn); 2 in w. *Henderson* 24 August (NR); 1 at Miller, *Fulton*, 27 August (DR, JR); 2 juvs. at Camp #9 on 1 September (BP, MMn); 1 juv. at Eddy Creek 2 September (BP, MMn); 1 at Paradise 4 September (MS); 5 at Eddy Creek and 1 at Jonathan Creek 24 September (DR); 6 at Sauerheber 9 October (DR, KOS); several at each of Little River, Jonathan Creek, and Blood River 15 October (DR); and 3 at Eddy Creek 17 October (BP, BY).

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper** – earliest report was for 1 below Smithland Dam 19 August (DR); peak count was for 5 at the Ft. Campbell Airfield, *Christian*, 25 August (DM) that represent the first to ever be reported on an airfield in the state; latest report was for 2 at Little River 24 September (DR). Also reported were 1 at Mitchell Lake 24 August (NR) and 26 August (SR); 1 juv. at Camp #9 on 1 September (BP, MMn); 3 (2 ads. and a juv.) at Westvaco, *Hickman*, 28 August (DR, JR); and 3 juvs. at Mitchell Lake 2 September (NR et al.).

**Short-billed Dowitcher** – there were only a few reports for the season: 1 at Mitchell Lake 4 August (NR); a juv. at Willow Pond 27 August (DR, JR); and a juv. at Jonathan Creek 24 September (DR). A dowitcher sp. at Mitchell Lake 9 August

(SR) was most likely this species based on date.

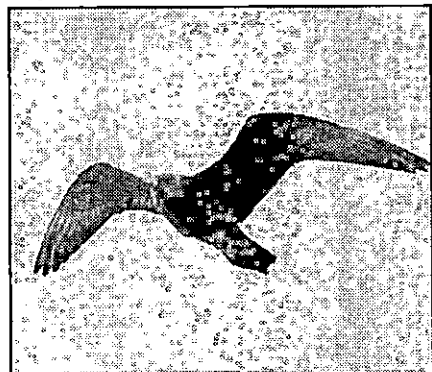
**Long-billed Dowitcher** – there were only two reports (both with call notes heard) of 3 at Sauerheber 9 October (DR, HC, KOS) and 5 juvs. there 24 October (MS, BP, AC). Reports of 10 dowitcher sp. in w. *Fulton* 2 October (HC, RDn) and 1 at Jonathan Creek 24 October (HC) were almost certainly this species based on dates.

**Wilson's Snipe** – earliest report was for 1 at Mitchell Lake 25 August (DR).

**American Woodcock** – a few likely migrants were observed as follows: 1 at Beargrass Creek 2 November (RDv) and singles at Surrey Hills Farm 6 and 12 November (BP, MMn).

**Wilson's Phalarope** – the only report was for 1 at Mitchell Lake 19 August (NR, DR).

**Long-tailed Jaeger** – what should become a first state record was a juv. discovered on Ky Lake above the dam 29 August (ph.HC, RDv, NR) and observed by many individuals during the following week (ph.NM, ph.DR). The bird was last observed 11 September (DR, NR). See Field Notes (p. 34). KBRC review required.



Long-tailed Jaeger, Kentucky Lake  
2 September 2004  
Nancy Moore

**Laughing Gull** – all reports are included: a second-year at Ky Dam 2 September (DR); a new state high count of 7 (6 first-

year and 1 ad.) at Ky Dam 24 September (DR); an ad. at the Falls of the Ohio 28 October (BP); and 1 below Ky Dam 13 November (vt.BY).

**Franklin's Gull** – all reports are included: an ad. at Ky Dam 24 September (DR); 1 at Jonathan Creek 3 October (RDv, BDv); 2 at the Falls of the Ohio 17 October (MS); and an ad. on Lake Barkley above the dam 17 October (BP, BY).

**Bonaparte's Gull** – earliest reports included 1 at Jonathan Creek 2 October (RDn, HC); 1 at Paradise 26 October (DR); 6 at Paradise 31 October (RL, MW); 1 at Jonathan Creek 31 October (BL); and 8+ at Barren 1 November (DR). Peak count was 400+ at Barren 23 November (DR).

**Herring Gull** – earliest reports were for 1 at Minor Clark 21 August (LM, NKBC) and a juv. at Ky Dam 30 August (DR, RDv); early peak count was for 15-20 on Lake Barkley above the dam 17 October (BP, BY).

**Thayer's Gull** – the only report was for an ad. at Barkley Dam 17 November (ph. DR) with perhaps the same bird at Ky Dam 26 November (HC).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** – earliest report was for an ad. at Kuttawa 24 September (DR); also reported were 2 ads. at Kuttawa 30 September (DR) and 17 October (BY, BP); 1 ad. on Ky Lake near Ky Dam Village 1 October (RDn); single ads. at Ky Dam Village marina and Kuttawa 10 October (BY); 1 ad. on Ky Lake above the dam 17 October (BY, BP); 1 ad. at Ky Dam Village marina 7 November (HC); 3 ads. on Lake Barkley from the dam to Eddyville and a first-year bird on Ky Lake, *Marshall*, all 17 November (DR); and 1 ad. at Ky Dam 26 November (HC).

**Caspian Tern**: peak counts included 13 at Paradise 8 August (BY); 12 at Taylorsville Lake, *Anderson*, 21 August (BW); and 150+ at Kuttawa 27 August (DR, JR). Latest report was for 1 at Kuttawa 17 November (DR). Also reported at less-than-regular locales were 1 at Petersburg, *Boone*, 7 August (LM); 4 at

Fishing Creek and 1 at Waitsboro, both 8 September (RDn); and 2 at Barren 9 September (DR).

**Common Tern** – the inclement weather associated with the passage of the remnants of Hurricane Frances resulted in peak counts of 17 at Fishing Creek (RDn) and 27 at Waitsboro (RDn), both 8 September (RDn) with 3 still at Fishing Creek 9 September (RDn); then, rainy weather with the passage of the remnants of Hurricane Ivan resulted in the observation of 18 on Lake Cumberland above the dam, *Russell* (DR), 10 at Fishing Creek (RDn, DR) and 1 at Waitsboro (RDn), all 17 September. Otherwise, the only report was for 2 at Jonathan Creek 24 September (DR).

**Forster's Tern** – earliest report for the season was for 1 below Smithland Dam 19 August (DR). Peak count was for 125 at Jonathan Creek 24 September (DR). Latest reports included 40 at Kuttawa 21 November (DR) and a few birds to the end of the period at Jonathan Creek (HC).

**Least Tern** – a count of "at least 200, perhaps as many as 300" made at Island No. 1 on 26 August (SR) was relatively impressive; ca. 70 including juvs. were at Mitchell Lake 26 August (SR); 1 at Blood River 27 August (HC) was a first for that locale. Latest report was for a juv. at Mitchell Lake 12 September (DR, NR).

**Sooty Tern** – the remnants of Hurricane Frances were responsible for depositing an ad. onto US 119 on the n. side of Pine Mt., *Lecher*, where it was picked up freshly dead 9 September (\*GL). See Field Notes (pp. 34-36). KBRC review required.

**Black Tern** – all reports are included: 6 at Fishing Creek 11/21 August (RDn); 4 on the Ohio River below Smithland Dam 19 August (DR); 8 at Mitchell Lake 19 August (DR, NR); 15 at Minor Clark 21 August (LM, NKBC); peak count of 50+ at Laketon 25 August (DR); 1 at Mitchell Lake 26 August (SR); and 1 at Waitsboro 8 September (RDn).

**Eurasian Collared-Dove** – birds continue in Monticello, *Wayne*, with 14 there 9 September (RDn).

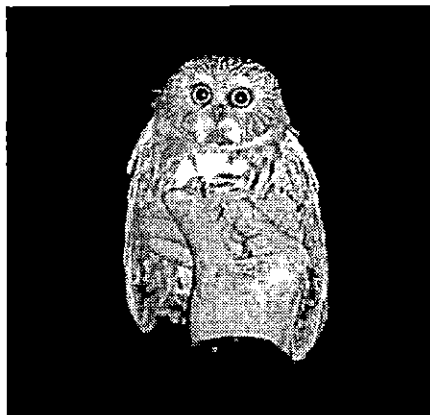
**Mourning Dove** – a yg. bird still in a nest in s. *Logan* 7 October (FL) represented a relatively late breeding record.

**Black-billed Cuckoo** – only reports were for singles at *Sassafras*, *Knott*, 12 September (BG); at *Mark* 22 September (CN, WN); and near *Burnside*, *Pulaski*, 8 October (LO).

**Barn Owl** – 4 yg. were found in a grain bin near *Boaz*, *McCracken*, 11 October (DF, fide EW) for a rare late-season nesting record.

**Short-eared Owl** – the only reports were for 1 at *Sinclair* 20 November (MW, RL) and 26 November (MS).

**Northern Saw-whet Owl** – a bird was turned in anonymously to a veterinarian's office in sw. *Jefferson*, 1 November, but it died of injuries; presumably, this owl originated nearby during very late October, but even its county of origin is unclear (fide EW); 4 were netted at *Surrey Hills Farm* 8 November (MMn et al.) and 1 was netted there 12 November (MMn et al.). Also reported was 1 heard at *Little Lick* 14 November (RDn).



Northern Saw-whet Owl, *Jefferson*  
12 November 2005  
Jennifer Huber

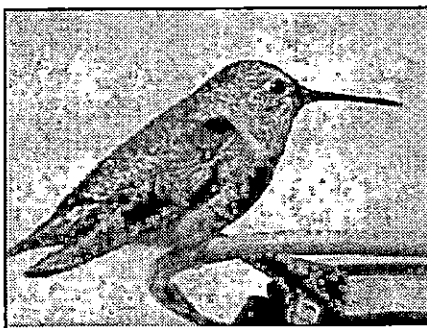
**Chuck-will's-widow** – the observation of 2 hawking insects from exposed snags e. of *Shepherdsville*, *Bullitt*, 19 August (BP,

MMn) may represent a seldom-reported behavior.

**Whip-poor-will** – single birds were still heard calling at *Ft. Campbell*, *Christian*, 5 August (DM) and at *Thompson Creek Glades State Nature Preserve*, *Larue*, 18 August (BP, MMn).

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird** – a nearly complete albino was present at *Hebron*, *Boone*, 8 August (ph.DW). Latest reports included single birds at *Murray* 31 October – 4 November (ME); *South Williamson*, *Pike*, 1 November (JC); and *Lexington* 1-9 November (BS).

**Rufous Hummingbird** – there were 4 reports of confirmed Rufous: 29 September – 17 December, an ad. female (banded) at *Lexington* (ph.LR, CS); 11 October – 2 December, an imm. male at *Shaker Mill* (ph.DR, \*RS); late October into December, an ad. female (banded) at *Cynthiana*, *Harrison* (R&JH, ph.BP, CS); and 25 November into December, an ad. male (banded) at *Louisville* (ph. D&IW, CS).



Rufous Hummingbird, *Harrison*  
1 December 2004  
Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.

**Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird** – 2 additional female-type birds were not captured and banded, but photos show them to be Rufous/Allen's sp.: 1 at *Bowling Green*, 9 November – 23 December (JS, ph.JE); and 1 near *Kuttawa*, *Lyon*, late October – 23 December (ph.P&RK).

**Red-headed Woodpecker** – two nests at *Long Run Park* were of interest not only because they were only a few feet apart

and were active at the same time, but also because nestlings were still being fed 18 August (BW) and each nest may have been attended by the same male.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** – earliest reports included singles at Briarwood 3 October (J&PB) and *Butler* 5 October (DR).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher** – the only reports were for singles at Ballard 25 August (DR) and Caperton 18 September (BY).

**Eastern Wood-Pewee** – another late nesting record was documented by the observation of a pair of ads. feeding a juv. at Evergreen Cemetery 23 August (FR); relatively late was 1 at Sauerheber 23 October (BP, KSNH).

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** – all reports are included: 1 at Shaker Mill 26 August (DR); 1 banded at Clarks River NWR, *Marshall*, 16 September (HC); and 1 at Briarwood 17 September (J&PB).

**Acadian Flycatcher** – a likely migrant was a bird at Briarwood 8 August (J&PB); latest report was for 1 in *Warren* 12 October (DR).

**Alder Flycatcher** – 1 was identified by "pip" call notes at Shaker Mill 5 September (DR).

**Least Flycatcher** – there were several reports including a probable bird giving "whit" call notes in e. *Jefferson* 1 August (MMn); 1 at Shaker Mill 26/28 August/5 September (DR); 1 at Minor Clark 4 September (SM); 1 at Briarwood 17 September (J&PB); and 1 at Caperton 18 September (BY).

**Great Crested Flycatcher** – latest report was for 1 at Lake Cumberland WMA, *Pulaski*, 22 September (RDn).

**Eastern Kingbird** – latest report was for 3 at Long Run Park 15 September (BW).

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** – 1 (probably an ad. female) was observed at the Ft. Campbell Airfield, *Christian*, 3 August and 3 September (DM).

**Loggerhead Shrike** – interest in this declining species may be resulting in a few more reports. Birds were reported a bit

outside remaining strongholds at Hogue, *Pulaski*, 22 September (RDn) and Beech Grove (3 individuals), *Pulaski*, 23 September (RDn).

**Northern Shrike** – a juv. discovered at Sinclair 13 November (ph.RDn, HC, ME) will constitute the first fully documented record for the state; it was observed at least through 28 November (ph.DR). KBRC review required.



Northern Shrike, *Muhlenberg*  
13 November 2004  
Roseanna Denton

**White-eyed Vireo** – latest report was for 1 heard at Briarwood 24 October (J&PB).

**Bell's Vireo** – latest report was for 1 singing at Sinclair 4 September (MS).

**Blue-headed Vireo** – a bird at the Twin Knobs Rec. Area, DBNF, *Rowan*, 5 September may have been a local breeder (DP); latest reports included 1 in *Warren* 2 November (DR); 3 in LBL, *Trigg*, 4 November (BL); 1 at Little Lick 14 November (RDn); and 1 at Caperton 20 November (MS, BY).

**Philadelphia Vireo** – a decent movement was detected; earliest report was for 1 at Bernheim Forest 11 September (J&PB, BBC); latest reports were for 2 at Shaker Mill 1 October (DR) and 1 at Briarwood 3 October (J&PB).

**Blue Jay** – following an extremely heavy and noticeable migration of birds through the state during the latter half of September and throughout October, the species became quite scarce in some portions during the latter part of November.

**Common Raven** – 2 were observed at Kingdom Come State Park, *Letcher*, 19 September (DR, JR, RDv).

**Purple Martin** – latest report was of a relatively tardy bird at Long Run Park 20 September (BW).

**Tree Swallow** – latest report was for scattered birds at Peabody, *Muhlenberg/Ohio*, 29 October (DR).

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow** – latest report was for a few at Sauerheber 9 October (DR, KOS).

**Barn Swallow** – latest reports included 3 in w. *Fulton* 2 October (RDn, HC); a few at Sauerheber 9 October (DR, KOS); 1 at Jonathan Creek 15 October (DR); and 1 at Minor Clark 2 November (FB).

**Cliff Swallow** – 1 at Taylor Park, *Campbell*, 13 August was a local first (FR); 2 near Dot, *Logan*, 16/17 August (FL) were also likely indicative of a mid-August post-breeding movement; the peak count was 100+ at Camp #11 on 1 September (BP, MMn).

**Red-breasted Nuthatch** – 1 was observed at the *Wolfe* breeding area 4 September (FR); a moderate movement occurred during the season, mostly by early November. Earliest reports included 2 at Evergreen Cemetery 19 September (FR); 1 at Homestead 21 September (DR); 1 at Audubon State Park 27 September (DA, DD); and 5 or 6 at Riverqueen 29 September (BP).

**Brown Creeper** – earliest reports included 1 at Bowling Green 28 September (TD) and at least 1 at Berea College Forest, *Madison*, 30 September (TH).

**House Wren** – 2 at Blanton Forest 20 September (BP, AC) may have been lingering, seemingly out of place breeders.

**Winter Wren** – earliest reports were for singles at Briarwood 1 October (J&PB) and at Miles Park 6 October (BW).

**Sedge Wren** – nesting was again confirmed at Surrey Hills Farm, where a family group was heard calling 2 October, a pair plus another family group were heard calling 3 October, and a pair was heard

scolding 6 October (BP). Other likely territorial birds included 6 at Homestead in mid-August (RDn et al.); 1 at Sinclair 4 September (MS); and 8+ at Sauerheber 9 October (DR, KOS). Latest reports included 1-2 still at Surrey Hills Farm 21 October (BP); 1 at Sauerheber 24 October (MS); and 2 or 3 at Sinclair 26 November (JE, DE, MMn, BP, NR).

**Marsh Wren** – all reports are included: 1 heard at Paradise 28 September (BP); 1 at Camp #11 on 29 September (BP) and 17 October (BP, BY); 2 at Sauerheber 5 October (DR); 1 at Sinclair 6 October (DR); 2 near Boston, *Nelson*, 28 October (BP); and 1 at Mark 7 November (CN).

**Golden-crowned Kinglet** – earliest reports were for 1 at Sauerheber 5 October (DR); 3-5 at Surrey Hills Farm 7 October (BP); 2 in *Pulaski* 10 October (SS et al.); and 1 at Bellevue, *Campbell*, 11 October (FR).

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet** – earliest reports were for singles at Audubon State Park 27 September (DA, DD); in sw. *Jefferson* 29 September (CL); and at Berea College Forest, *Madison*, 30 September (TH). Peak count was for 20 birds (10 in each of 2 groups) in LBL, *Trigg*, 1 November (BL).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** – likely indicative of the onset of the species' relatively early migratory period was 1 at Briarwood 7 August (J&PB). Latest report was for 1 at Lexington 13 October (LR).

**Veery** – the only reports were for singles at Beargrass Creek 6 September (JE); Miles Park 7/18 September (BW); and Shawnee Park 10 September (J&PB, BBC).

**Swainson's Thrush** – latest report was for 1 at Cave Hill Cemetery 16 October (BJ, BBC).

**Gray Catbird** – latest reports included singles in LBL, *Trigg*, 21 October (BL); at Shaker Mill 24 October (DR, JE, BE); and in e. *Pulaski* 27 November (RDn).

**Northern Mockingbird** – an especially late nesting was indicated by an ad. in the company of 4 fledglings at Miles Park 11 September (BW).

**American Pipit** – earliest report was for 1 at Camp #9 on 29 September (BP); peak count was for 130+ near Buckner, *Oldham*, 9 November (BP).

**Cedar Waxwing** – the species' fall movement peaked in October and early November with counts of ca. 200 at Miles Park 1 October (BW) and "hundreds" at Lexington 3 November (AR).

**Golden-winged Warbler** – a fairly good movement was detected with reports as follows: 1 at Tom Sawyer 1 September (J&PB); 1 at Beargrass Creek 5 September (JE); 3-4 at Shawnee Park 9 September (J&PB, BBC); singles at Shaker Mill 15/20 September (DR); 2 in sw. *Jefferson* 23 September (CL); and 1 at Cape Hills 26 September (CC).

**Brewster's Warbler** – a male was seen at Beargrass Creek 5 September (JE).

**Orange-crowned Warbler** – all reports are included: 1 at Briarwood 7 October (J&PB); 1 at Bowling Green 10 October (DR); 1 at LBL, *Trigg*, 11 October and 3 November (BL); 1 at Homestead 17 October (BP, BY); 1 at WKU Woods, 22 October (JE); 1 at Audubon State Park 23 October (BP, KSNH); 1 in *Monroe* 23 October (SS); and 1 at Tom Dorman State Nature Preserve, *Garrard*, 26 October (BP).

**Nashville Warbler** – latest report was for 2 at Shaker Mill 20 October (DR).

**Yellow Warbler** – a relatively late nesting was indicated by a pair with 3-4 fledglings at Garvin Brown Preserve, ne. *Jefferson*, 15 August (BW); there were several late reports including 1 in s. *Warren* 29 September (JE); a male at Miles Park 1 October (BW); 1 at Murray 5 October (ME); and a probable imm. female at LBL, *Trigg*, on the extraordinarily late date of 4 November (\*BL).

**Chestnut-sided Warbler** – earliest report was for 1 at Tom Sawyer 22 August (J&PB, BBC); latest report was for 1 at Caperton 31 October (MS).

**Cape May Warbler** – several observers noted that it seemed to be a good fall for the species; earliest report was for 1 at

Shawnee Park 10 September (J&PB, BBC); latest report was a relatively tardy individual at Burlington, *Boone*, 2 November (LM). Other interesting reports included a single-species flock of 5 at Evergreen Cemetery 25 September (FR) and 1 at Mason County Recreational Park 3 October (KSc).

**Black-throated Blue Warbler** – there were a few more than the normal number of reports; all are included: a male at Cumberland Gap National Park, *Bell*, 18 September (RDn); 2 males at Blanton Forest 20 September (BP, AC); a male at Miles Park 18 September (BW); a male at the Jenny Hole Unit Sloughs WMA, *Union*, 26 September (CC); and a female in sw. *Jefferson* 27 September (CL).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** – earliest reports included 2 at Sauerheber 26 September (CC) and 10 at Riverqueen 29 September (BP).

**Black-throated Green Warbler** – latest report was for 1 at Little Lick 30 October (RDn).

**Blackburnian Warbler** – earliest reports were for 1 at Mt. Zion 22 August (RDn) and 2 at Tom Sawyer 26 August (J&PB).

**Pine Warbler** – latest reports included 1 at WKU Woods 15 November (JE) and 2 at Barren River Lake State Park, *Barren*, 20 November (SS, WW).

**Palm Warbler** – latest reports included 2 or more at Sinclair 14 November (MB) with 1 still there 26 November (MB).

**Blackpoll Warbler** – there were three reports: 1 at Pine Mountain State Park, *Bell*, 18 September (SM); 1 at Caperton 26 September (ph.JY, BY); and 1 at Lake Cumberland WMA, *Pulaski*, 29 September (RDn).

**American Redstart** – latest report was for 2 at Shaker Mill 21 October (DR).

**Prothonotary Warbler** – latest report was for 2 in w. *Fulton* 2 October (RDn, HC).

**Northern Waterthrush** – a bird at Mark 30-31 October (CN) was quite tardy.

**Louisiana Waterthrush** – 1 near Natural Bridge State Park, *Wolfe*, 5 September

- (\*FR), represents one of the latest reports in recent years.
- Connecticut Warbler** – there were two reports: 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 12 September (BP) and 1 at Briarwood 17 September (J&PB).
- Mourning Warbler** – all reports are included: singles at Shaker Mill 28 August/ 5 September (DR); 1 at Shawnee Park 9 September (J&PB, BBC); and 1 in sw. Jefferson 27 September (CL).
- Wilson's Warbler** – latest report was for 1 at Cave Hill Cemetery 24 October (WA, BBC).
- Canada Warbler** – earliest report was for 1 at Briarwood 30 August (J&PB).
- Yellow-breasted Chat** – latest reports were for singles at Cape Hills 26 September (CC); Shaker Mill 27 September (DR); and Miles Park 9 October (BW).
- Summer Tanager** – latest report was for 1 at Mt. Zion 24 October (RDn).
- Scarlet Tanager** – latest report was for a male at WKU Woods 22 October (JE).
- American Tree Sparrow** – earliest report was for a few at Sinclair 26 November (BP, MMn).
- Chipping Sparrow** – a very late nesting was indicated by the observation of an ad. still feeding a fledgling at Long Run Park 20 September (BW); peak count was 120 at Evergreen Cemetery 24 October (FR); continuing a recent trend, flocks lingered well into November with at least 20 at Surrey Hills Farm 28 November (BP); 20 at Somerset, *Pulaski*, 30 November (RDn); and a flock at Shaker Mill 30 November (DR).
- Vesper Sparrow** – an unusually early migrant was observed at Bernheim Forest, *Bullitt*, 11 September (\*J&PB, BBC). Peak counts included 6+ at Sinclair 26 October (DR); 11 at Mt. Zion 27 October (RDn); 3-4 at Little Lick 30 October (RDn); and 8 at Clifty Pond, *Pulaski*, 31 October (RDn).
- Lark Sparrow** – unusual for fall was a probable migrant at Ragland, *McCracken*, 26 August (SR).
- Savannah Sparrow** – earliest reports were for 1 at Camp #9 on 1 September (BP, MMn) and 2 in *McCreary* 11 September (RDn, SS et al.).
- Grasshopper Sparrow** – latest reports were for several at Sinclair 23 September (DR) and 2 at Hardy Slough, Sauerheber, 5 October (DR).
- Henslow's Sparrow** – only report for the post-breeding season was for 1 at Ano 10 October (RDn, SS, AM, CN).
- LeConte's Sparrow** – only reports were for singles at Sauerheber 24 October (MS) and Sinclair 26 November (MMn, BP, NR).
- Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow** – the only report was for 2 at Sauerheber 9 October (DR, ph.JH, KOS).
- Lincoln's Sparrow** – earliest report was for 1 at Surrey Hills Farm 18 September (BP). Peak count, representing a new state high count, was at least 20 there 2 October (BP). Latest reports were for 1 at Mark 5 November (CN) and 2 very late in e. *Harrison* 27 November (\*SM).
- Swamp Sparrow** – earliest reports were for 1 at Camp #11 on 29 September (BP); 1 near Somerset, *Pulaski*, 30 September (RDn); and 6 at Surrey Hills Farm 2 October (BP).
- White-throated Sparrow** – earliest reports included an extremely early bird at Surrey Hills Farm 28 August (BP, AC); then 3 at Surrey Hills Farm 2 October (BP) and 1 at Jefferson Memorial Forest, *Jefferson*, 3 October (BJ, BBC).
- White-crowned Sparrow** – earliest reports were for 2 or 3 at Surrey Hills Farm 2 October (BP) and 1 at Sauerheber 5 October (DR).
- Dark-eyed Junco** – earliest report was for 1 at Gunpowder Creek Nature Park, *Boone*, 2 October (LM).
- Lapland Longspur** – earliest report was for 1 at McElroy 14 October (DR, CH). Also reported was a flock of 30+ in n. *Fayette* 5 November (JW); by mid-November small numbers were being seen at widely scattered locales (m. ob.).



**Snow Bunting** – only report was for a female at Sinclair 14 November (MB).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** – over the last 20 years or so, this species has become a regular visitor to feeding stations during spring migration; this year, that occurrence was extended into the fall migratory period with several reports including 1 at Bellevue, *Campbell*, 9 September (FR); 1 at South Williamson, *Pike*, 2 October (JC); 2 at Short Creek, *Grayson*, 11 October (JP); and an imm. male that lingered near Cox's Creek, *Nelson*, to the unusually late date of 1 December (ph. GH). Other late reports included 1 at Shaker Mill 25 October (DR).

**Blue Grosbeak** – latest reports were for 3 at Sauerheber 9 October (DR, KOS) and 1 at Mt. Zion 21 October (RDn).

**Indigo Bunting** – a relatively late nesting was indicated by the observation of an ad. still feeding a fledgling at Fisherville, e. *Jefferson*, 18 September (BW); a probable peak in movement of migrants was indicated by the presence of ca. 50 at Surrey Hills Farm 2 October (BP). Latest reports included 2 in LBL, *Trigg*, 1 November (BL); 1 at Mark 5 November (CN); and 1 at Barren 8 November (DR, RDv).

**Dickcissel** – 1 at St. Matthews, *Jefferson*, 30 August (BW) was likely a migrant; latest report was for 1 at Sauerheber 9 October (DR, KOS).

**Bobolink** – there were a few reports of fall migrants including 3 in *McCreary* 11 September (RDn, SS et al.); a flock of 24 at Surrey Hills Farm 12 September, with 6 continuing to 13 September (BP); 4 at the same location 3 October (BP); and 1 at Sauerheber 9 October (DR, KOS).

**Brewer's Blackbird** – the only reports were for 1 ne. of Oscar, *Ballard*, 13 No-

vember (BY) and 19 at the WKU Farm 16 November (DR).

**Orchard Oriole** – latest report was for an imm./female at Miles Park 4 September (BW).

**Baltimore Oriole** – latest report was for 1 at Cave Hill Cemetery 16 October (BJ, BBC).

**Purple Finch** – a seemingly moderate movement occurred, mostly after 1 November. Earliest reports included 1 at Cherokee Park, *Jefferson* (EH, BBC) and 2 at Big Bone Lick State Park, *Boone* (LM), both 23 October, and 1 at Shaker Mill 25 October (DR); there were subsequently a half-dozen more reports during the first several days of November with continued generally small numbers through the month (m. ob.).

**Pine Siskin** – a small to moderate movement commenced in early October and peaked during late October and early November with small numbers lingering through the end of the period. Earliest reports were for 1 heard at Surrey Hills Farm 7 October (BP) and 7 at Mark 10 October (RDn, SS). Subsequent reports of 1-20+ birds were reported from *Bourbon* (KSe); *Calloway* (KC); *Campbell* (FR); *Fayette* (TS); *Henderson* (BP, AC); *Jefferson* (BP, J&PB); *Logan* (MB); *Madison* (TH); *McCracken* (SR); *Muhlenberg* (BP, SN); *Ohio* (DR, NR); *Pulaski* (KS); *Trigg* (BL, PL); *Warren* (TD, DR); and *Wayne* (RDn). The peak of occurrence seemed to slowly move southward with highest counts in n. Kentucky during October and in the s. part of the state during November.

**American Goldfinch** – peak count reported during the season was 125-150 at Surrey Hills Farm in early October (BP).

Observers: Win Ahrens (WA); David Ayer (DA); Jane & Pat Bell (J&PB); Mark Bennett (MB); Karon Broadbent (KB); Fred Busroe (FB); Joan Carr (JC); Hap Chambers (HC); Elizabeth Ciuizio (EC); Katharine Cohen (KC); Amy Covert (AC); Charlie Crawford (CC); Roseanna Denton (RDn); Bonnie Dever (BDv); Robert Dever (RDv); Beth Diggs (BDg); David Dister (DD); Tom Durbin (TD); Melissa Easley (ME); Bradford Elmore (BE); Diane Elmore (DE); Jackie Elmore (JE); Scott Freidhof (SF); Donald Frick (DF);

Tom Fusco (TF); Brad Goodrich (BG); Gail Hart (GH); Lana Hays (LH); Rex & Jan Hiday (R&JH); Carter Hooks (CH); Tim Houghton (TH); Eddie Huber (EH); Jennifer Huber (JH); Bob Johnson (BJ); Paula & Randall Kepner (P&RK); James Kiser (JK); Celia Lawrence (CL); Linda Lawrence (LL); Gary Libby (GL); Bill Lisowsky (BL); Paula Lisowsky (PL); Roly Lloyd (RL); Frank Lyne (FL); Scott Marsh (SM); Lee McNeely (LM); Mark Monroe (MMn); Nancy Moore (NM); Ann Morgan (AM); Bob Morris (BM); Arlene Morton (AM); Mike Morton (MMr); Daniel Moss (DM); Susan Neace (SN); Connie Neeley (CN); Wendell Neeley (WN); Laura Obiso (LO); Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BP); David Patrick (DP); Joyce Porter (JP); Nicole Ranalli (NR); Ed Ray (ER); Scott Record (SR); Frank Renfrow (FR); Alicia Rodrian (AR); David Roemer (DR); Joan Roemer (JR); Wayne Rosso (WR); Leisa Royse (LR); Robert Sargent (RS); Kurt Schwarz (KSc); Jackie Seaton (JS); Kristin Secaur (KSe); Chris Sloan (CS); Travis Snyder (TS); Bob Staib (BS); Stephen Stedman (SS); Matt Stickel (MS); Jon Summers (JS); Carol & Andre Trevathan (C&AT); Shawchyi Vorisek (SV); Winston Walden (WW); Mary Walter (MW); Dick & Irene Ward (D&IW); Eileen Wicker (EW); Jim Williams (JW); Barbara Woerner (BW); Donna Wolfe (DW); Ben Yandell (BY); Justin Yandell (JY); Beckham Bird Club (BBC); Ky. Ornithological Society (KOS); Ky. Society of Natural History (KSNH); Northern Ky. Bird Club (NKBC).

## MID-WINTER BIRD COUNT

2004-2005

Reports of 30 counts were received from across the Commonwealth. A total of 134 species was recorded on count days with four additional species reported only during count weeks.

Temperatures were fairly mild on average throughout the count period, with a slight dip during December 19 and 20. The low temperature was 13°F at Hart County on December 20 and the high temperature at 68°F at Calloway County on January 1. The pattern of temperatures was much like last year. As a result, the numbers of waterfowl were similar to the numbers last year. However, the number of geese was higher, with seven Cackling Geese being observed. Wild Turkey numbers continue to increase. The number of American White Pelicans was also higher. Numbers for most hawk species were up. The number of Eurasian Collared-Doves declined. The widespread lack of a mast crop this year may have accounted for the lower number of Blue Jays. The numbers of Red-breasted and White-breasted Nuthatches was up compared with last year's numbers. Cedar Waxwing and American Robin numbers declined significantly, probably due to the lack of cedar berries and other food. Yellow-rumped Warblers were hard to find this year. Some of the increases observed for certain species were most likely due to the increase in the number of counts and therefore eyes in the field. Lingering birds, such as Palm Warblers, House Wrens and Least Sandpipers, were evident. Some nice finds were the three Virginia Rails on the Paradise count, the three Pectoral Sandpipers on the Richmond count, and the Spotted Towhee on the Ballard County count.

Thanks to the many observers and compilers who participated in this year's count. Also, thanks to compilers who submitted documentation for unusual species to the editor and to the Kentucky Bird Records Committee. Records of species unusual for the count do not constitute official records until reviewed by the Kentucky Bird Records Committee.

**Ballard County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described 1984). Habitat as described in 1984. Dec 21; 6:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. CST; Sky cloudy. Temp. 35° to 52° F; wind NE 0-15 m.p.h. Water partly open; Ohio River floodwaters in recession.

Five observers in two to three parties. Total party hours 20 (8 on foot, 12 by car). Total party miles 139 (3.5 on foot, 135.5 by car). Hours owling 1.0. Total species 93; total individuals 70,245.

Observers: Hap Chambers, Roseanna Denton, Robert Dever, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), and Scott Record.

The species total was the highest ever for this count, eclipsing the old high of 86 in 2001. The Ohio River had recently flooded much of the Ballard WMA, but waters had receded enough by count day for much of the area to be accessed. Highlights were a relatively diverse list of waterfowl including 4 species of geese, a Mute Swan (BP), and 14 species of ducks. Lingering birds included a Least Sandpiper (HC, RDn, RDv) and a female Common Yellowthroat (BP), the latter observed foraging among dense herbaceous vegetation along the margin of a roadside ditch next to Ballard WMA. The male Spotted Towhee, found last winter adjacent to West Ky WMA in western McCracken County, has returned and was observed in the same location (BP, SR)! Also of interest were 40 Brewer's Blackbirds (BP, SR) in an area where they were reported the previous winter, 3 Eastern Phoebe's, and a Chipping Sparrow (HC, RDn, RDv). Red-headed Woodpeckers were nearly absent; the only bird observed was found foraging on corn along a field margin. Mast (acorns and hickory nuts) and berries (most notably sugarberry fruits) appeared to be entirely absent, accounting for the lack or scarcity of some species.

**Calloway County** (all points within a 15 mile diameter circle, center Douglas Cemetery.) Habitat 20% lake shoreline and streams, 35% open fields, 30% urban and residential, and 15% deciduous and pine woods. Jan. 1; 5:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 53° to 60°F; wind SE, 4-7 m.p.h.

Seven observers in 5 parties. Total party-hours 34.5 (10.0 on foot, 24.5 by car). Total party-miles 167.5 (6.0 on foot, 161.5 by car). Total species 85; total individuals 7,252.

Observers: Hap Chambers (compiler), Joe Tom Erwin, Bob Head, Charles Mercer, Mike Miller, Clell Peterson, and Wendell Webb.

**Land Between the Lakes** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Pisgah Bay picnic ground.) Habitat as described in 1984 in *American Birds*. Dec. 18; 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky clear in a.m., partly cloudy in p.m.; temp. 27° to 56°F; wind, SW, 8-10 m.p.h.

Twenty-two observers in 10 parties. Total party-hours 60.5 (27 on foot, 33.5 by car). Total party-miles 401 (15 on foot, 386 by car). Total species 92; total individuals 13,625.

Observers: Mark Bennett, Jami Carroll, Hap Chambers, Mark Donham, Melissa Easley, Joe Tom Erwin, Donald Gladis, Heather Guilderson, Kristi Hanson, Chris Hunter, Bill Lisowsky, Carl Mowery (compiler), Kathy Mowery, John Polpeter, Elizabeth Raikes, Darin Samborski, Wendell Webb, Kelly Werheim, Amy White, Daniel White, Steve White, and Aviva Yasgur.

The Golden Eagle was an immature bird.

**Sorgho** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Hwy. 279-S and Audubon Parkway intersection.) Habitat farm, plowed fields, standing corn, pastures, reclaimed strip mine, county parks, woodland and industrial. Jan 1; 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky cloudy with showers 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; temp. 55° to 58°F; wind calm. The ground was very wet. A heavy snow was nearly gone. Some lakes were still frozen.

Seven observers in four parties. Total party-hours 21 (7 on foot, 14 by car). Total party-miles 83.5 (5 on foot, 78.5 by car). Total species 40; total individuals 10,342.

Observers: Pat Augenstein, Joe Ford, Mike Henshaw, Janet Howard (compiler), Mary Kissel, Joyce Porter, and Carolyn Williams.

**Olmstead** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center at the junction of Ky 1041 and Ky 1151.) Habitat approximately 75% is cultivated farmland. The remaining habitat includes blocks of deciduous woods, fencerows, pasture, grown-up fields, developed areas, and open water. Dec. 29; 6:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Sky was entirely cloudy most of the

day, changing to mostly cloudy during periods in the afternoon; temp. 43° to 53°F; wind, SW, 5-12 m.p.h. The area was covered by the remnants of an ice/sleet storm. Most ground and back roads were covered with about 1-2 inches of melting sleet/ice. This dramatically slowed driving and thus reduced the total area covered. Recent weather had been very cold and Mosley's Pond and shallow bodies of water were frozen. Lake Herndon and some transient bodies of water were exceptions to this rule and some larger ponds contained some open water.

Three observers in 2-3 parties, with one feeder watcher. Total party-hours 20 (5.5 on foot, 14.5 by car). Total party-miles 126.4 (2.4 on foot, 124.0 by car). Total species 70; total individuals 13,651.

Observers: Mark Bennett (compiler), Frank Lyne, and David Roemer. Feeder watcher: Alison Lyne.

Highlights of this year's count were largely a result of having 2-3 parties for the first time ever. Even so, coverage of the circle was hindered by slushy/icy road conditions. Two Greater White-fronted Geese represented a first tabulation of this species on the Olmstead count. Other nice birds for this count included 190 Canada Geese, 33 Red-tailed Hawks, 9 Northern Harriers, 29 Wilson's Snipe, 12 Ring-billed Gulls, 1 Eastern Phoebe, 5 Loggerhead Shrikes, 1,455 Horned Larks, 49 Carolina Wrens, 36 Eastern Towhees, 191 Northern Cardinals, and 17 Lapland Longspurs. Big misses were Northern Bobwhite, Fox Sparrow, and Cedar Waxwing. The species number of 70 represents the highest species total ever for this count, the individual tally ranks second highest. With the big misses, the missed owls, and a few more waterfowl, the total for this count could exceed 75 species, with good coverage and some luck.

**Paradise** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described 1993). Habitat as described in 1993. Jan 2; 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. CST. Cloudy. Temp. 54° to 63° F; wind WSW 5-15 m.p.h. Water mostly open.

Twelve observers in six parties. Total party hours 50 (20 on foot, 30 by car). Total party miles 272 (13 on foot, 259 by car). Hours owling: 3.0. Total species 85; total individuals 14,969.

Observers: Jane Bell, Pat Bell, Mark Bennett, Hap Chambers, Amy Covert, Roseanna Denton, Robert Dever, Eddie Huber, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Don Parker, Matt Stickel, and Mary Walter.

The species count was slightly below average for recent years as was the level of participation. The biggest gaps in the day's list were for waterfowl (with only one species of goose observed and a couple of species of dabblers missing) and rarities (which were limited to three different Virginia Rails (MB, AC, HC, RDn, BP) at two marshes – birds answered taped calls). Less unusual but notable observations for this count included two Mute Swans (EH, MS) and a Common Merganser (JB, PB) in Ohio County, and three calling American Woodcocks in Muhlenberg County (RDn). Raptor numbers were as low as on any previous count, at least in part due to what appears to be low populations of small mammals on the reclaimed surface mines this winter. Only 4 Short-eared Owls were found, tying this count's low for that species. One of the Red-tailed Hawks was a rufous morph *B. j. calurus* at the same Muhlenberg County location it has been observed for a couple of winters in a row. As in other areas, natural food crops seem to be at a premium. Species that are often recorded on this count but that were missed included Turkey Vulture, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Loggerhead Shrike, and Pine Warbler.

**Bowling Green** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Three Springs, six miles south of Bowling Green.) Habitat deciduous woods 20%, fields and pastures 60%, and town and parks 20%. Dec. 19; 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sky sunny early to cloudy, windy and snow showers throughout the remainder of the day; temp. 32° to 19° F; wind WNW 12 m.p.h.

Eight observers in three parties. Total party-hours 25 (10 on foot, 15 by car). Total

party-miles 187 (7 on foot, 180 by car). Total species 76; total individuals 7,061.

Observers: Lester Doyle, Tom Durbin, Blaine Ferrell (compiler), Dick Lord, Wayne Mason, Albert Meier, David Roemer, and Neil Shields. Feeder watchers: Jackie Elmore (early), Diane Elmore, Joan Roemer and Jackie Seaton.

The *Selasphorus* hummingbird was at a feeder on Smallhouse Road. It had been coming to the feeder since November 9 (JE, DR). The Blue-winged Teal was an unusual find (DR).

**Glasgow** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1986.) Habitat as described in 1986. Dec. 31; 6:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Sky overcast; temp. 26° to 41°F; wind WNW, 15-20 m.p.h., with gusts to 30 m.p.h. during the morning hours. There was a steady drizzle early, then steady showers by mid-morning. The rain ceased after noon.

Four observers in two parties. Total party-hours 19 (12 on foot, 7 by car). Total party-miles 118 (8 on foot, 110 by car). Total species 70; total individuals 7,643.

Observers: Marquita Gillenwater, Wayne Mason (compiler), David Roemer, and Stephen Stedman. Feeder watcher: Billie Mae Moore.

**Mammoth Cave National Park** (Center and habitat as described in 1980). Dec. 21; 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Sky mostly cloudy to overcast; temp. 40° to 52°F; wind SW, 10 m.p.h.

Three observers in two parties. Total party-hours 13 (10 on foot, 3 by car). Total party-miles 95 (4 on foot, 91 by car). Total species 39; total individuals 843.

Observers: Lester Doyle, Blaine Ferrell (compiler), and Wayne Mason.

With the complete lack of a mast crop and no cedar berries, we had to struggle to get the birds we did. There were only 2 Blue Jays, 4 Yellow-rumped Warblers, and no American Robins.

**Falls of Rough** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Short Creek, Ky., Hwy. 79 and 54 intersection). Habitat: woodland, river bottoms, watershed lakes, ponds, old fields, Rough River lake, streams, and cultivated fields. Dec. 21; 6:40 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Sky partly cloudy to cloudy; temp. 43°F; wind, calm. Seven inches of snow had fallen on December 22 and the ground was still covered.

Five observers in two parties. Total party-hours 19 (1.5 on foot, 17.5 by car). Total party miles 174 (2 on foot, 172 by car). Total species 48; total individuals 1,203.

Observers: Lowell Foreman, Rebecca Foreman, Mary Harrel, Janet Howard, and Joyce Porter (compiler).

**Otter Creek Park** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described 1972). Habitat as described in 2001. Dec 31; 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST. Cloudy; temp. 51° to 55° F; wind SW 5-15 m.p.h. Water partly open.

Fifteen observers in five parties. Total party hours 32.5 (20.5 on foot, 12 by car). Total party miles 296.5 (6.5 on foot, 290 by car). Total species 67; total individuals 5,458.

Observers: Jane Bell, Pat Bell, Richard Cassell, Robert Dever, Bill Friel, Eddie Huber, Jennifer Huber, Catherine Lawrence, Celia Lawrence, Jon Lawrence, Bryan Lewis, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Don Parker, Nancy Vance, and Mary Walter.

The species count was slightly below average for this count. Highlights of the day included the Common Mergansers (Doe Valley Lake) (RD, MW) and the Short-eared Owl in rural farmland of southern Meade County (DP, RC, BP). Other nice finds included the two Bald Eagles (BL et al.) along the Ohio River and two Chipping Sparrows in rural Meade County (BP, RC, DP). As in other areas, a good supply of natural food crops appeared to be lacking.

**Bernheim Forest** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described 1974). Habitat as described in 1974. Dec 28; 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST. Partly cloudy; temp. 18-43° F; wind S 5-20 m.p.h. Water mostly frozen.

Three observers in two parties. Total party hours 13 (5 on foot, 8 by car). Total party miles 102 (2 on foot, 100 by car). Total species 67; total individuals 3,254.

Observers: Dona Coates, Mark Monroe, and Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler).

The species count was relatively good for the low level of participation. Highlights of the day included a single Golden Eagle (thought to be sub-adult) and an adult Bald Eagle. The total of only ONE Blue Jay was indicative of the absence of a mast crop in the area. Berry-eating species were also at a premium, including Cedar Waxwing, which was missed for only the fourth time in 32 years of conducting this count.

**Louisville** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Jct. hwy 42 and 22, as described in 1972.) Habitat as described in 1972. Dec. 19; 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky cloudy a.m. to partly cloudy p.m.; temp. 30° to 19°F; wind W, 18 m.p.h. Morning snow, very windy all day.

Thirty-two observers in 15 parties. Total party-hours 77.25 (33 on foot, 44.25 by car).

Total party miles 354.8 (25 on foot, 329.8 by car). Total species 88; total individuals 24,414.

Observers: Garrett Adams, Win Ahrens, Mary Bill Bauer, Tom Becker, Jane Bell and Pat Bell (compilers), Ann Caudill, Cody Clark, Dona Coates, Colleen Craven-Becker, David Dorman, Jane Fender, Rod Goforth, J. R. Harris, Charles Hatten, Eddie Huber, Jennifer Huber, Bob Johnson, John Krull, Celia Lawrence, Aurilla Lesley, Burt Monroe III, Mark Monroe, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Donald Parker, Martha Pike, Rev. David Powers, Jan Raia, Tim Ritter, Jack Still, Scottie Theiss, and Barbara Woerner.

Strong winds, snow and cold temperatures were a challenge to the 32 participants of the Louisville Christmas Bird Count, but they were able to tally 88 species – one less than last year. However, the overall individual count was low. The weather conditions brought in a large number of gulls, 3 Bald Eagles, and 181 Sandhill Cranes. Other birds of interest were a Barn Owl, an adult Rufous Hummingbird, 2 Least Sandpipers, and a Black Scoter. Thanks to all the participants who had to endure such a cold, windy day.

**Shelbyville** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center three-quarters of a mile south of U.S. 60 and Guist Creek Lake on KY 714.) Habitat elevation 640'-1190', farmland, fallow land, suburban, wooded and grassland. Dec. 26; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky mostly sunny all day. 23° to 30°F; wind N, 10 m.p.h.

Eleven observers in four parties. Total party-hours 23 (3 on foot, 20 by car). Total party-miles 246.5 (3 on foot, 243.5 by car). Total species 57; total individuals 4,588.

Observers: Heather Brown, Joan Brown, Savannah Brown, Seth Brown, Todd Brown, W.H. Brown (compiler), Mike Crouch, Cathy King, Taylor Morgan, Benton Young, and Steve Earl Young.

Two flocks of 100 and 75 Sandhill Cranes were observed over Shelbyville December 15 and 23, respectively.

**Hart County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center corner of Craddock Road and Gerald's Lane.) Habitat rural farmland and wooded areas, including Green River and 100 Acre Pond. Dec. 20; 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky mostly sunny; temp. 13° to 35°F; wind gusty to 20 m.p.h.

Ten observers in one party. Total party-hours 11 (8 on foot, 3 by car). Total party-miles 66 (2 on foot, 64 by car, 4 by kayak). Total species 62; total individuals 2,664.

Observers: Bonnie Avery, Bruce Bardin, John Brittain, Carol Friedman, Janet Kistler, Steve Kistler (compiler), John Knecht, Tamara Meinecke, Mitchell Sturgeon, and Randall Sullivan.

**Upton** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center 1/2 mile south of Hilltop or 5 miles southwest of Hilltop, eastern Grayson County.) Habitat is woodland, farmland, river and Nolin Reservoir. Dec. 18; 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky mostly sunny; temp. 25° to 55°F; wind SW, 5-10 m.p.h.

	Ballard County	Calloway County	Land Between the Lakes	Sorgho	Olmstead	Paradise	Bowing Green	Glasgow	Mammoth Cave Nat'l Park	Falls of Rough	Otter Creek Park	Bernheim Forest
Greater White-fronted Goose	500	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ross's Goose	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Goose	3000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	820	538	374	318	190	663	322	-	-	-	80	1100
Cackling Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	1
Mute Swan	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wood Duck	7	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Gadwall	253	25	240	-	-	79	2	27	-	-	-	-
American Wigeon	40	-	1	-	-	23	-	1	-	-	-	-
American Black Duck	14	2	10	-	-	20	4	10	-	-	-	-
Mallard	10000	61	115	26	30	333	446	84	-	-	260	26
Blue-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shoveler	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Pintail	47	-	2	-	-	32	6	-	-	-	-	-
Green-winged Teal	75	4	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-
Canvasback	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redhead	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	14	-	123	-	-	320	13	1	-	-	-	-
Greater Scaup	5	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	5	310	2784	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	39	276	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Goldeneye	6	12	263	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hooded Merganser	34	34	253	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-
Common Merganser	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	7	-	-	7	-
Red-breasted Merganser	-	2	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruddy Duck	2	4	133	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Ruffed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	29	-	18	-	1	121	55	-	49	22	36	85
Northern Bobwhite	10	-	7	-	cw	1	-	-	-	6	-	-
Pacific Loon	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Loon	-	-	43	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Pied-billed Grebe	-	12	36	-	1	40	2	8	-	-	6	-
Horned Grebe	-	4	139	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	1	150	673	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
American White Pelican	-	125	480	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	48	31	119	4	8	30	8	10	4	1	2	2

Louisville	Shelbyville	Hart County	Upton	Green River Lake	Frankfort	Kieber WMA	Danville	Lexington	Burlington	Falmouth	Warsaw	Richmond	Somerset	Wayne County	Natural Bridge	Dewey Lake	Williamson, Pike County	Total
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	503
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3002
889	1079	52	22	12	710	164	661	975	1008	368	329	694	321	644	-	41	-	12374
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	21	-	-	-	27
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
14	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
30	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	52	1	-	18	10	12	37	-	4	-	791
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	15	-	-	-	86
25	1	2	2	-	3	-	5	-	14	4	40	4	82	10	-	-	-	252
757	38	52	38	37	134	-	277	174	313	14	131	209	626	290	-	6	8	14485
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	97
44	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	4	-	-	-	2	3	5	-	-	-	144
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	12	-	-	-	26
181	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	10	29	37	-	1	-	746
18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
44	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	-	3	-	-	-	3209
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
4	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	8	-	2	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	360
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	285
106	-	-	-	4	2	-	1	38	-	1	-	-	71	14	-	-	-	563
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	206
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	cw
5	30	64	23	24	9	42	-	-	79	21	29	36	45	12	32	44	cw	911
-	18	6	1	-	4	-	-	14	26	-	-	5	1	-	-	-	-	99
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
7	-	-	-	9	1	-	4	14	cw	4	2	18	2	4	-	1	-	171
-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	-	-	-	183
21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	851
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	605
19	9	2	26	11	22	6	17	33	4	8	15	10	12	10	1	14	-	486



	Ballard County	Calloway County	Land Between the Lakes	Sorgho	Olmstead	Paradise	Bowling Green	Glasgow	Manmoth Cave Nat'l Park	Falls of Rough	Otter Creek Park	Bernheim Forest
Black-crowned Night-Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black Vulture	-	5	3	-	18	88	-	9	-	10	13	-
Turkey Vulture	-	41	7	-	18	-	5	4	7	23	49	-
Bald Eagle	21	9	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Northern Harrier	5	4	-	-	9	40	3	2	-	3	4	5
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	1	3	-	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	3
Cooper's Hawk	3	3	2	-	2	4	4	5	-	-	2	2
Accipiter species	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	10	10	8	-	-	7	-	-	2	1	1	11
Red-tailed Hawk	24	16	24	11	33	42	18	12	3	8	23	19
Rough-legged Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	2	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
American Kestrel	20	11	11	17	30	23	21	14	-	7	30	8
Merlin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia Rail	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Coot	23	75	550	-	2	85	32	-	-	-	13	-
Sandhill Crane	-	-	-	-	cw	-	16	-	-	-	-	-
Killdeer	74	50	51	-	21	11	70	-	5	6	1	15
Wilson's Snipe	2	-	-	-	29	-	10	-	-	1	-	-
American Woodcock	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Least Sandpiper	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pectoral Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Laughing Gull	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bonaparte's Gull	1	826	1801	-	-	-	-	200	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	18	560	1241	cw	12	24	148	4600	-	-	4	-
Herring Gull	3	6	97	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-
Thayer's Gull	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Black-backed Gull	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forster's Tern	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	-	18	63	16	400	57	263	55	-	-	22	68
Eurasian Collared-Dove	2	2	-	2	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mourning Dove	64	61	63	23	342	48	169	60	-	157	286	40
Barn Owl	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Screech-Owl	1	3	-	-	1	4	-	1	-	-	-	2
Great Horned Owl	3	1	-	-	-	12	2	-	1	-	-	-
Barred Owl	1	5	3	cw	-	5	2	-	1	2	1	-
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	1	-







	Ballard County	Calloway County	Land Between the Lakes	Sorgho	Olmstead	Paradise	Bowling Green	Glasgow	Mammoth Cave Nat'l Park	Falls of Rough	Otter Creek Park	Bernheim Forest
Eastern Towhee	21	-	16	4	36	37	24	9	4	14	9	23
Spotted Towhee	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Tree Sparrow	11	66	-	-	-	55	-	2	-	-	8	70
Chipping Sparrow	1	6	-	-	5	-	8	4	-	-	2	1
Field Sparrow	36	1	49	3	39	90	53	58	54	1	71	60
Savannah Sparrow	7	36	6	-	46	29	19	1	-	-	7	2
Fox Sparrow	4	-	5	-	ew	3	2	2	6	-	1	1
Song Sparrow	97	16	84	28	76	235	37	56	18	16	83	83
Swamp Sparrow	29	2	14	-	8	113	15	14	3	-	3	3
White-throated Sparrow	141	124	192	32	88	124	156	118	98	36	138	64
White-crowned Sparrow	8	4	-	19	59	60	11	5	-	18	46	24
Dark-eyed Junco	67	155	535	40	34	137	108	79	98	84	205	101
Lapland Longspur	-	1	-	-	17	-	76	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Bunting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Cardinal	181	232	117	133	191	184	142	83	23	92	295	82
Red-winged Blackbird	26215	1019	275	72	930	2100	556	120	-	25	12	3
Eastern Meadowlark	46	30	3	1	290	30	158	39	-	22	39	35
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	6	-	23	5	-	40	-	-	-	-
Brewer's Blackbird	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	20338	1063	33	7221	3120	1100	53	-	-	49	16	1
Brown-headed Cowbird	116	58	1	500	530	15	14	20	-	-	29	3
Purple Finch	-	-	6	-	-	16	-	4	-	2	9	3
House Finch	42	30	50	1	23	30	30	12	-	30	55	6
Pine Siskin	-	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Goldfinch	69	61	75	38	44	100	79	49	36	17	392	34
House Sparrow	58	42	20	172	210	13	75	39	-	11	126	40
Day of count	D21	J01	D18	J01	D29	J02	D19	D30	D21	D29	D31	D28
Number of Species	93	85	92	40	70	85	76	70	39	48	67	64
Number of Individuals	70245	7252	13625	10343	13651	14969	7061	7643	843	1203	5458	3254
Number of Observers	5	6	22	7	3	12	8	5	3	5	15	3

Louisville	Shelbyville	Hart County	Upton	Green River Lake	Frankfort	Kleber WMA	Danville	Lexington	Burlington	Falmouth	Warsaw	Richmond	Somerset	Wayne County	Natural Bridge	Dewey Lake	Williamson, Pike County	Total
25	10	3	cw	16	13	3	3	11	46	11	10	5	36	9	-	3	2	403
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
4	2	-	-	3	10	1	-	-	57	3	6	2	-	-	11	-	-	311
cw	1	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	3	-	-	4	20	4	1	40	-	106
3	2	12	15	116	18	33	7	10	10	-	14	33	190	74	-	3	-	1055
cw	-	-	1	6	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	2	10	9	-	-	-	184
-	-	1	cw	5	1	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	17	-	-	-	cw	51
145	67	259	23	168	151	15	19	57	101	36	41	104	401	106	4	82	11	2619
1	-	8	1	16	31	-	-	3	13	2	-	3	25	5	-	5	-	317
508	16	67	65	161	130	17	55	188	138	67	23	87	232	44	3	72	5	3189
10	40	95	-	16	10	4	53	29	5	2	45	14	82	23	-	-	-	682
306	39	45	100	83	148	44	43	55	53	160	29	50	181	87	6	28	2	3102
26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	120
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cw
663	186	86	36	182	237	77	220	287	153	122	85	165	499	138	3	79	16	4989
17	2	32	702	1	12	62	5	1	17	15	1	3	38	16	-	22	-	32273
26	18	42	108	13	49	9	99	24	cw	2	1	50	91	87	-	6	-	1318
1	10	-	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	75	-	-	-	260
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
3	2	-	3	210	-	150	181	4	11	-	2	101	36120	15384	-	-	-	85165
5	3	1	502	-	2	30	cw	13	2	5	-	-	3	54	-	-	-	1906
-	3	8	4	4	8	1	-	4	2	15	3	1	3	-	-	5	-	101
62	12	20	14	1	66	1	89	90	44	15	13	30	98	4	-	-	7	875
-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
122	59	67	28	28	128	39	83	139	119	19	86	235	226	134	1	58	18	2583
318	241	221	2	30	254	69	108	135	76	34	38	31	65	49	-	8	1	2486
D19	D26	D20	D18	J04	D18	J01	D18	D14	J01	D26	D18	D18	J01	D27	J02	J02	J02	
88	57	62	63	64	66	51	58	75	62	60	63	72	79	83	25	48	29	134
24414	4588	2664	3941	3899	5871	1973	8370	7088	4430	2394	1829	6173	79075	25031	157	1321	193	338958
32	11	10	8	6	10	6	26	21	15	4	5	14	14	6	6	5	2	295

Eight observers in one-two parties. Total party-hours 16 (6 on foot, 8 by car, 2 by motorboat). Total party-miles 72 (2 on foot, 60 by car, 10 by motorboat). Total species 63; total individuals 3,941.

Observers: Bruce Bardin, John Brittain (compiler), Lisa Brittain, Carol Friedman, Dan Givens, Dan Gosser, Janet Kistler, and Steve Kistler.

Species observed for the first time on this count were Bonaparte's Gull, Rough-legged Hawk, and Savannah Sparrow.

**Green River Lake** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Green River Memorial Baptist Church, Taylor County, Kentucky.) Habitat old fields, agricultural fields and borders, second growth forest, Green River riparian areas, open water, including Green River Lake and Campbellsville City Lake. Jan. 4; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky totally overcast most of the day, a little dreary in the afternoon; temp. 60°F; wind 0-10 m.p.h. Rain all day with fog. Very poor visibility.

Five observers in two parties with a feeder watcher. Total party-hours 23 (4.5 on foot, 18.5 by car). Total party-miles 107.5 (4.5 on foot, 103.0 by car). Total species 64; total individuals 3,899.

Observers: Richard Cassell, Lloyd Curry (compiler), Steven Fields, Richie Kessler, and Brainard Palmer-Ball. Feeder watcher: Frances Johnson.

There were low numbers, especially of Blue Jays and decent numbers of passerines. There were probably plenty of waterfowl, they were simply unobservable through the fog.

**Frankfort** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1972.) Habitat as described in 1977. Dec. 18; 8:00 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 24° to 48°F; wind SSW, 0-23 m.p.h.

Ten observers in six parties. Total party-hours 39 (13.5 on foot, 25.5 by car). Total party-miles 292.5 (9.5 on foot, 283 by car). Owling 0.5 hours. Plus 3 at feeders for 7 hours. Total species 66; total individuals 5,871.

Observers: Joan Brown, Amy Covert, James Derryberry, Margaret Derryberry, Jim Durrell, Peggy Gould (compiler), Ralph Gould, Pat Hankla, Scott Hankla, Virginia Honaker, Jeff Jones, Brainard Palmer-Ball, and Tim Williams.

**Kleber Wildlife Management Area** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center as described in 1972.) Habitat as described in 1972. Jan. 1; 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 53° to 59°F; wind S, 0-5 m.p.h. Foggy in areas.

Six observers in three parties. Total party-hours 17.5 (1.0 on foot, 16.5 by car). Total party-miles 225 (1 on foot, 224 by car). Total species 51; total individuals 1,973, plus 2 unidentified gull species and 8 unidentified duck species.

Observers: Joe Burgess, Jim Durrell, Peggy Gould (compiler), Ralph Gould, Pat Hankla, and Scott Hankla.

**Danville** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Boyle County Courthouse.) Habitat as described before. Dec. 18; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky clear in a.m. to partly cloudy in p.m.; temp. 26° to 45°F; wind 0-5 m.p.h.

Twenty-six observers in eight parties. Total party-hours 46.5 (8.5 on foot, 38.0 by car). Total party-miles 436 (11 on foot, 425 by car). Total species 57; total individuals 12,993.

Observers: Joe Amburgey, Ernie Baird, Joe Baron, Don Bolelage, J.P. Brantley, Jane Brantley, Carolyn Carter, Neil Eklund (compiler), Virginia Eklund, Martha Foster, Bill Garriott, Jamie Hester, Tom Kearns, Bill Kemper, Debbie Larkin, Fred Loetscher, Gail Manning, Sam Morgan, Eric Mount, Amelia Nichols, John Nichols, Don Pelly, Herb Petitjean, Abby Piper, Judy Ross, and Rob Stamps.

New high counts for Danville: Northern Harrier (9), Killdeer (675), Bonaparte's Gull (7). New species for Danville: Least Sandpiper, with documentation and photographs submitted.

**Lexington** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center East Hickman Church on Bates Creek Road.) Habitat mixed residential and farmland. Dec. 14; 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky partly cloudy to clear; temp. 24° to 50°F; wind calm.

Twenty-one observers in eight parties, 2 feeder watchers. Total party-hours 53 (3 by foot, 50 by car). Total party-miles 436 (1 by foot, 435 by car). Total species 74; total individuals 12,864.

Observers: Marty Barr, Ramish Bhatt, Susan Bhatt, Ann Bradley, Rhonda Bryant, Phyllis Deal, Mike Flynn, Kevin Hopper, Mike Kenawell, Katie Knowles, Teri Koontz, Scott Marsh, Betty Maxson, Robert L. Morris (compiler), Kay Neikerk, Susan Pollack, Tami Sanderson, Marie Sutton, Dave Svetich, Susan Svetich, Jackie Van Willigen, Jim Williams, and Bernice Wood.

**Burlington** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center near Camp Michaels.) Habitat as described in 1992. Jan. 1; 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky overcast, light to heavy fog; temp. 52° to 56°F; wind SE, 2-5 m.p.h.

Fifteen observers in six parties. Total party-hours 29 (5 on foot, 24 by car). Total party-miles 177 (3 on foot, 174 by car). Total species 62; total individuals 4,430.

Observers: Linda Altevers, Joe Caminiti, Kathy Caminiti, Elaine Carroll, Pat Carroll, Dennis Desjardin, Melissa Desjardin, Craig Holocher, Mike Laytart, Lee McNeely (compiler), Dorothy Osterhage, Gayle Pille, Carmen Schulte, Sally Soderlund, and Tommy Stephens. Feeder watchers: Marjorie Hill and Burt Schulte.

Fog hampered visibility throughout the day. Blue Jay numbers were close to average.

**Falmouth** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center near Caddo, Ky.) Habitat 50% woodland and forest edge, 25% river and lake shoreline, 20% agricultural, and 5% residential. Dec. 26; 6:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Sky mostly clear; temp. 21° to 26°F; wind NE, 0-5 m.p.h. Most roads covered with ice and snow, lakes and streams frozen.

Four observers in three parties. Total party-hours 16 (3 on foot, 13 by car). Total party-miles 106 (1 on foot, 105 by car). Total species 60; total individuals 2,394.

Observers: Rhonda Bryant, Ed Groneman, Scott Marsh, and Lee McNeely (compiler). The majority of waterfowl and gulls were found in the vicinity of Meldahl Dam.

**Warsaw** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Gallatin County Courthouse.) Habitat as described in 1992. Dec. 18; 7:00 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Sky overcast; temp. 24° to 45°F; wind NW, 6-10 m.p.h. Most lakes and ponds frozen.

Five observers in two parties. Total party-hours 14 (3 on foot, 11 by car). Total party-miles 145 (2 on foot, 143 by car). Total species 63; total individuals 1,829.

Observers: Joe Caminiti, Kathy Caminiti, Tony Goedde, Ed Groneman, and Lee McNeely (compiler).

The Merlin was seen along Eagle Creek near Glencoe. Gulls were unusually scarce.

**Richmond** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center 0.75 miles north of intersection of Bobtown Road and the Kingston-Berea Road). Habitat: fencerows and roadsides (20%), woodland (20%), pasture and open fields (55%), lawns (4%), lakes and ponds (1%). Dec. 18; 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky overcast in a.m.; partly cloudy later in the afternoon; temp. 29° to 41°F; wind, WNW, 0-5 m.p.h.

Fourteen observers in eight parties. Total party-hours 37.2 (8 on foot, 29.2 by car). Total party-miles 311 (10.8 on foot, 300.2 by car). Total species 72; total individuals 6,173.

Observers: Matt Beckett, Jacqueline Bennett, Rob Foster, Paul Hager, Tim Houghton, Barbara Kieffer, Jennifer Morse, Nicole Ranalli, Art Ricketts, Tina Ricketts, Brandon Ritchison, Gary Ritchison (compiler), Brian Thompson, and Kayde Thompson.

**Somerset** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center junction of Bypass Hwy. 80 and Hwy. 39.) Habitat as described in 2000. Jan. 1; 5:40 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky cloudy to partly cloudy; temp. 49° to 67°F; wind S, 0-5 m.p.h.



Fourteen observers in six parties. Total party-hours 57 (16.25 by foot, 40.75 by car). Total party-miles 465.25 (6.75 on foot, 458.5 by car). Total species 79; total individuals 79,075.

Observers: Judy Bryant, Rhonda Bryant, Granville Cox, Roseanna Denton (compiler), Steve Denton, Gay Hodges, Steve Kickert, James Kiser, Scott Marsh, Linda McClendon, Lynda Mills, Tom Mills, Arlene Morton, and Stephen Stedman. Feeder watchers: Julie Denton, Grace Floyd, Floyd Halcomb, Susan Huffman, Eileen Hurst, Barbara Johnson, Dottie Kinnamon, Peggy Morrison, Mary Moss, Connie Neeley, Wendell Neeley, Hazel Spears, and Joe Richards.

**Wayne County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center at the junction of Hwy. 1275 and Highway 3106) Habitat 5% urban, 20% residential, 15% lakes, streams and ponds, 25% woodland, 20% pastures, and 15% cultivated. Dec. 27; 5:50 a.m. to 6:50 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 18°F to 33°F; wind 3-12 m.p.h.

Six observers in three parties. Total party-hours 27.75 (9.50 on foot, 18.25 by car). Total party-miles 256.5 (1.5 on foot, 255 by car). Total species 83; total individuals 25,031.

Observers: Jean Brickell, Roseanna Denton (compiler), Arlene Morton, Connie Neeley, Jo Ann Rose, and Stephen Stedman.

**Natural Bridge State Park** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Whit-tleton Branch Trailhead.) Habitat: mostly mixed mesophytic forest, some roadside fields, some stream-sides. Jan. 2; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky overcast to rainy; temp. 49° to 62°F; wind SSW, 9 m.p.h. It rained the entire time.

Six observers in three parties. Total party-hours 20 (15 on foot, 5 by car). Total party-miles 30 (15 on foot, 15 by car). Total species 25; total individuals 157.

Observers: Joan Brown, Mary Carol Cooper, Hanna Helm, Kathy King, Gerald Robe, and Zeb Weese (compiler).

The weather was horrible and there were no birds.

**Dewey Lake** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center Dewey Lake, approximately UTM 17 347811E 4175855N (WGS84/NAD83).) Habitat is Lake, golf course, strip mine, open fields, and northern hardwoods. Jan. 2; 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 15° to 35°F; wind 0-5 m.p.h. Cold and clear.

Five observers in three parties. Total party-hours 18 (2.5 on foot, 15.5 by car). Total party-miles 56.5 (2.5 on foot, 54 by car). Total species 48; total individuals 1,321.

Observers: Joan Carr, Les Estep, Chris Evans, Troy Evans (compiler), and Paul Hager.

Great experience. It was a small turnout, but not bad for the first Mid-winter Bird Count for this area. Hopefully, we will have continual support for the Dewey Lake count for years to come.

**Williamson, Pike County** (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center point where Pigeon Branch and Benton Branch converge to form Meathouse Fork.) Habitat is heavily wooded mountainside, mountaintop removal area with grasses, wet bottom land, and riverside. Jan. 2; 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky foggy, cloudy with breaks of sun.; temp. 38° to 54°F; wind NE, 3 m.p.h. Hard rain at times.

Two observers in one party. Total party-hours 6 (2 on foot, 4 by car). Total party-miles 35 (3 on foot, 32 by car). Total species 29; total individuals 193.

Observers: Joan Carr (compiler), and Les Estep.

## FIELD NOTES

## Eastern Phoebe Uses Elk Hair as Nesting Material

On 20 April 2003, we found an active Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) nest located under a capstone rock ledge on a reclaimed mine in Breathitt County, Kentucky. The capstone was one of several clustered together on top of a southwestern slope at 420 m in elevation and was located approximately 100 m from the forest-reclaimed grassland edge. The nest was positioned 2 m off the ground near the ceiling-vertical wall interface. The nest contained three eggs and was comprised of a mosaic of moss, mud, and grasses. The lining of the nest was a mixture of grass and elk (*Cervus elaphus*) hair. The dark brown color and length of the hair suggested it was from the neck mane region of an elk.

Elk were restored to Kentucky in 1997 after being absent from the state for more than 150 years (Maehr et al. 1999). The site where elk were first released was less than 5 km from the location of this nest. The construction of the phoebe nest overlapped with the period in which elk molt their winter coat. Although Dixon (1938) observed that Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) used caribou (*Rangifer tarandus*) hair to line its nest, we are unaware of any findings that describe Eastern Phoebe using elk hair for such purposes.

Our finding is not the first documented example of a bird species that has benefited from the return of elk to Kentucky. Cox et al. (2003) and others (C. Logsdon, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, personal communication) have observed the Common Raven (*Corvus corax*) scavenging elk carcasses in this area. Although elk can affect the structure and function of ecosystems at various spatial and temporal scales (Larkin 2001), the use of its hair for nesting material indicates a less conspicuous ecological service provided by this large herbivore.

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## First Kentucky Long-tailed Jaeger

On the morning of 29 August 2004, the authors met on the east pull-off on Kentucky Dam, Livingston/Marshall counties, for a day of birding. As we began scanning the lake above the dam, the first bird we saw appeared to be a jaeger; it was about one mile (1.6 km) out. We soon became certain the bird was a jaeger, and we called and reported it on the BIRDKY listserv.

After consulting several field guides we remained unsure which species of jaeger we were observing. The bird did not appear to be a Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*), the only species of jaeger identified in Kentucky prior to this date. In flight the wings were narrow at the base so the extension of the body and tail looked long. The head appeared rounded and the bill short. The bird did not have the bulky body look of a Pomarine Jaeger and was noticeably smaller than Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*) in direct comparison when sitting on the water. This was a time when cell phones proved to be very handy. Jeff Wilson and David Roemer were called for some expert advice. They both reviewed a series of field marks to help us with the identification. We were lucky when the bird flew quite close and landed very near the dam. We were able to carefully study the bill, head and feather pattern through our scopes and binoculars and take some diagnostic photographs for documentation. The bill looked small and stubby and was bicolored (grayish base and dark tip) with the length-of-the-nail to length-of-the-bill ratio being almost equal. The head was rounded with an unstreaked gray nape. Feathers of the mantle, scapulars, and tertials had crisp whitish edges that lacked any rusty tones. The upper and lower tail coverts were crisply barred blackish and white. The overall color of the bird appeared more grayish-brown rather than rusty-brown. In flight we could see the two outer primary shafts were white. The central tail feathers protruded noticeably beyond the rest of the tail feathers and were round-tipped rather than pointed. All of these field marks led us to conclude that the bird was a Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*).

During the following two weeks many birders from around the region were able to see and to enjoy this arctic visitor to Kentucky; it allowed close approach by boat, and some excellent photos were obtained (see photos on cover and on p. 9). The last reported sighting was 11 September 2004.

— **Hap Chambers**, 33 Wildwood Drive, Murray, KY, 42071; **Robert Dever**, 1872 Princeton Drive, Louisville, KY, 40205; and **Nicole Ranalli**, 344 High Street #1, Richmond, KY, 40475.

*Note: This is the first report of Long-tailed Jaeger in Kentucky. Indiana has a number of records, but all are from Lake Michigan (K. Brock, pers. comm.); Illinois has had several reports away from Lake Michigan, especially at Carlyle Lake, Clinton County, where interestingly there were two birds present 6-25 September 2004 (D. Kassebaum, pers. comm.); and Tennessee has had three reports, two from the Mississippi River (Stedman, S. J. 1985. Migrant 56:64-66; Peebles, W.R. 2001. Western Coastal Plain Report [Fall 2000]. Migrant 72 (1): 36-48.) and one on Kentucky Lake at Paris Landing, Stewart County (C. Sloan, pers. comm.). Like this first Kentucky record, most others in adjacent states have occurred early in late August and September, somewhat earlier than the peak southward movement for the other two jaeger species.*

### Sooty Tern in Southeastern Kentucky

On the morning of 9 September 2004, as I was driving over Pine Mountain on US 119 south of Whitesburg, Letcher County, Kentucky, I noticed an unusual black-and-white bird dead on the road. It was near the top of the mountain on the north side, and conditions were quite foggy. I collected the bird that had recently died and later identified it as an adult Sooty Tern (*Sterna fuscata*) (see accompanying photos on p. 36).

The Sooty Tern is a medium-sized tern that grows to a body length of approximately 45 cm and a wingspan of up to 94 cm (<http://southseas.nla.gov.au/biogs/P000398b.htm>). The bird has black plumage on its upperparts, while its underside, including wing linings, and outer feathers of the deeply forked tail, are white. It has a black bill and white forehead. The Sooty Tern is a pelagic bird that lives in open oceans and normally only comes ashore

to breed. These terns often circle high in the air over water ranging far and wide over the seas. Perhaps this is why they are so often blown inland, sometimes many hundreds of miles, by hurricanes and tropical storms (<http://www.enature.com/fieldguide>). They are known to have a remarkable homing ability. Sooty Terns feed largely at dusk and at night. Unlike other terns, they do not dive but pluck small fish and squid from the surface of the water. They spend most of their time in the air, almost never perching or alighting on the water. The Sooty Tern is found throughout the world's tropical and subtropical seas. They nest in colonies on offshore rocky or coral islands and isolated ocean beaches. In the eastern United States, the Sooty Tern breeds on Dry Tortugas off southern Florida and rarely on the Gulf Coast in Louisiana and Texas (Farrand 1998). They are occasionally seen in summer far offshore from North Carolina to Florida and in the Gulf of Mexico.

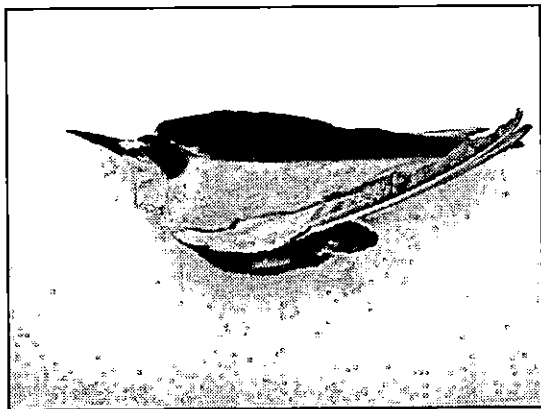
This bird was likely grounded by the remnants of Hurricane Frances, which made landfall southwest of Tallahassee, Florida, during mid-day 6 September 2004 after having crossed peninsular Florida the day before. The remnants of this storm then passed north-northeastward over northwestern Georgia, eastern Tennessee, and southwestern Virginia into West Virginia during 7-8 September 2004, passing just east of southeastern Kentucky during mid-day 8 September 2004. The storm's passage was accompanied by gusty winds and copious rainfall. During this same time, another displaced Sooty Tern was observed at South Holston Lake, Sullivan County, Tennessee, approximately 90 km SSE of the Letcher County location (Sloan and Palmer-Ball, in press).

In Kentucky, there have been only two other records for Sooty Tern (Palmer-Ball 2003). These were in western Kentucky (Kentucky Lake, Livingston County; Ohio River, McCracken County), 4 October 2002, and likely represent birds similarly displaced by Hurricane Lili. The current record represents the first specimen of this species from Kentucky. The specimen has been deposited in the collection at the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH), Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. The Sooty Tern would be expected to occur at an inland location only during such circumstances as these birds were found, the passage of the remnants of a tropical cyclone.

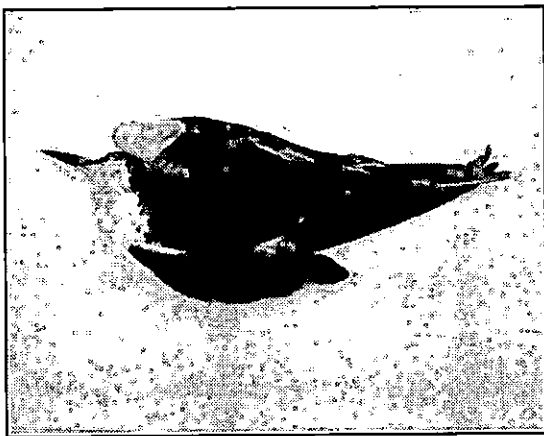
— Gary W. Libby, Senior Biologist, Eco-Tech, Inc., 1003 East Main St., Frankfort, KY, 40601.

### References

- Farrand, Jr. J. 1998. An Audubon Handbook: Eastern birds. McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York. 484 pp.
- Palmer-Ball, B. 2003. Annotated checklist of the birds of Kentucky. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Kentucky Ornithological Society, Louisville, KY.
- Sloan, C. and B. Palmer-Ball, Jr. In press. Tennessee & Kentucky *In* North American Birds 59(1).
- Sooty Tern, eNature.com (<http://www.enature.com/fieldguide>). March 10, 2005.
- Sooty Tern, *Sterna fuscata* – South Seas Companion Natural Phenomenon (<http://southseas.nla.gov.au/biogs/P000398b.htm>) March 10, 2005.



Sooty Tern, Letcher County, Kentucky  
9 September 2004  
Photos by Claudia Angle (NMNH)



## NEWS AND VIEWS

### Kentucky Bird Records Committee

Rare bird sightings and birds observed out of season should be well documented, and the documentation should be sent to Lee McNeely, Secretary of the KBRC, P.O. Box 463, Burlington, KY, 41005, for consideration by the committee for official state record status.

### K.O.S. Web Site

Visit the Kentucky Ornithological Society's web site at [www.biology.eku.edu/kos](http://www.biology.eku.edu/kos).